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## A Fledgling Constitution: Some Prerequisites for Democracy

By Michael Dobbs

**WASHINGTON** — The dates of the first Russian republic since the collapse of communism can be provided very precisely: Aug. 21, 1991, to Oct. 4, 1993. Its birth and death present an interesting historical symmetry. Both events occurred at the same place: the Moscow White House.

wake up Monday with a new constitution — and the second post-Soviet republic. The hammer and sickle will be replaced with the symbol of the new order: a czarist double-headed eagle.

Under the draft constitution submitted to Russian voters Sunday, the president is at the apex of power, overshadowing the parliament and the judiciary.

He can order referendums, declare a state of emergency and rule by decree. As head of state, head of government and commander in chief of the armed forces, the president "de-

termines the basic guidelines of domestic and foreign policy."

Mr. Yeltsin and his associates insist that Russia needs a strong president to carry out free-market reform at a time of unprecedented social upheaval. The previous constitution was a recipe for gridlock. Had the president not acted decisively to resolve the constitutional crisis, they argue, the result could have been the breakup of the 1,000-year-old Russian state. Ambitious regional politicians were exploiting the paralysis in Moscow to grab as much power and wealth as they could.

One could argue endlessly about who was responsible for the fall of the first post-Soviet republic. There is certainly enough blame to

go around. Unaccustomed to the ways of democracy, Mr. Yeltsin and his political opponents have never mastered the art of compromise.

In America, the constitution provides a mechanism for settling disputes between the different branches of government. In Russia, by contrast, the constitution was just another weapon in the brutal struggle for supreme power. By attempting to whittle down the president's authority through hundreds of constitutional amendments, the parliament effectively destroyed its own best line of defense.

During the 774 days of the first republic's existence, the hope that accompanied the

collapse of communism turned to disillusionment. As Russians vote for a new constitution and a new parliament, two questions come to mind. Will the second republic turn out to be any more successful than the first? And what can the United States do to encourage this fledgling democracy?

To steer Russia into a new post-Communist era is grueling, exhausting work — and it is unreasonable to expect even the most energetic politician to see the process through from start to finish. Like Mikhail S. Gorbachev before him, Mr. Yeltsin is likely to go down in history as a destroyer rather than a creator. There is some evidence that Mr.

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## First Returns Forecast Split In Russian Legislature

### Ultrationalists' Gains Would Trouble Yeltsin; Charter Approval Seen

By Margaret Shapiro

**MOSCOW** — Russian voters on Sunday appeared to have elected a sharply divided parliament split between supporters and opponents of free market reforms, with exit polls of scattered returns showing ultranationalist parties benefiting most from a significant backlash against President Boris N. Yeltsin's policies.

The new constitution proposed by Mr. Yeltsin appeared close to winning enough votes across Russia to be approved, but low turnout in some areas was threatening to invalidate the results. Russian law requires that 50 percent of the electorate of 107 million people participate for such a referendum to be valid.

Harsh weather from Moscow to Vladivostok, coupled with a general sense of frustration and apathy, appeared to be keeping down the turnout in many areas. But Mr. Yeltsin's aides predicted Sunday night that when all the votes were counted more than enough ballots will have been cast, and that the majority would approve the constitution.

The constitutional referendum was likely to be the only good news for Mr. Yeltsin, who called the elections in September after invalidating the old Brezhnev-era constitution and dismissing the hard-line, Soviet-era parliament that had thwarted him and opposed reforms.

Early returns from Russia's Far East and an exit poll by the Mitofsky International polling agency indicated that Mr. Yeltsin would not have the "pocket parliament" he had hoped for but would in fact face strong opposition to his economic and diplomatic plans.

According to the Mitofsky poll, conducted at 110 sites around Russia, the ultranationalist Liberal Democratic Party won slightly more support than the main pro-Yeltsin party, Russia's Choice.

The Liberal Democratic Party is led by Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who has called for the restoration of a Russian empire, the purging of non-Russians inside the country's borders and an end to "Americanized" foreign policy.

According to the exit poll, 20 percent of those surveyed supported Mr. Zhirinovskiy's party while 19 percent backed Russia's Choice. The Communist Party polled 12 percent.

Although a complex system of seat allocation may give the party a smaller proportionate share of parliament seats, Mr. Zhirinovskiy will certainly become a chief opposition leader, having outscored the Communists and a host of centrist parties.

The constitution, drafted by Mr. Yeltsin to replace the Brezhnev-era one he tossed out last fall, had come under sharp attacks by many for granting too much power to the president.

Mr. Yeltsin confidently predicted that Russians would approve the constitution rather than leave the country in legal limbo. He said he was also certain that the new two-chamber parliament would be "more intellectual, intelligent and politically literate" than the hard-line one he dismissed in September. The dismissal precipitated the political crisis that led to the bloody confrontation of Oct. 3-4.

But if the preliminary results hold, Mr. Yeltsin is likely to face a much more assertive and anti-reform parliament than he was hoping for when he dissolved the old Soviet-era legislature in September. If the new constitution is adopted, Mr. Yeltsin will have strong powers, including the right to dismiss the parliament, but the new legislature will also have a strong claim to

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## U.S. and EC Draw Sharp Rebuke From GATT Chief

By Tom Buerkle

**GENEVA** — The United States and the European Community remained deadlocked Sunday over aircraft subsidies and movies, drawing a rebuke from the head of the world trade organization GATT, who said they were putting hopes for a global trade accord "dangerously at risk."

Peter Sutherland, the head of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, said the United States was isolated over its hard-line stance on financial services and its demand to retain all of its anti-dumping trade weapons.

The obstacles made it unlikely that negotiators would be able to produce a draft trade agreement by midnight on Sunday, as hoped. The talks effectively face a deadline of midnight Wednesday, Washington time.

The two sides remain divided over the Community's demand to safeguard government aid programs for Airbus Industrie, and demands from Hollywood for greater royalty payments from Europe and unfettered access to future technologies for delivering entertainment products, such as satellite and pay-per-view telecasting.

Officials reported no real progress despite an intensive series of negotiating sessions.

(President Bill Clinton telephoned Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of France on Sunday to discuss for 20 minutes the state of the negotiations, a French spokesman said. Reuters reported from Paris. He gave no details.)

EC heads of state backed French demands for special protection for its film industry at its summit meeting in Brussels on Saturday. Jack Valenti, the powerful head of Hollywood's Motion Picture Association, held a long meeting with Mickey Kantor, the U.S. trade representative, on Sunday and blasted the Europeans for inflexibility.

Mr. Kantor then held three hours of talks with Sir Leon Brittan, the EC trade chief, Sunday evening. Mr. Kantor said they had "an interesting discussion" and that the two sides would resume talks later in the evening. He did not give any signs of progress.

"We have very severe problems at the moment," Sir Leon said earlier. "Things are not looking good. I think we have a bit of a crisis on our hands."

Mr. Kantor called the crisis talk "a bit of an overstatement" and said a deal could still be reached by the deadline of midnight Wednesday eastern standard time. But he added, "There are a number of difficult issues."

After that deadline, Mr. Clinton's fast-track authority effectively expires, giving Congress the right to seek changes in specific

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An elderly woman getting help in filling out complicated paper ballots from election officials at a polling station in Moscow on Sunday as another voter waited her turn.

## Rabin and Arafat Announce Delay in Self-Rule Accord

By Chris Hedges

**CAIRO** — A despondent Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel conceded late Sunday night that the Monday deadline to carry out the self-rule agreement in Jericho and the Gaza Strip would have to be delayed at least 10 days.

The decision, a difficult one for Mr. Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was made after the two sides failed to negotiate the boundaries of the Palestinian self-rule agreement in Jericho and who would control border crossings. They said that they also were unable to agree on security arrangements for Jewish settlers living in the Gaza Strip.

"We agreed that all of us are committed to the declaration of principles, but we have some differences over some points and we agreed to have another meeting within the next 10 days," Mr. Arafat said.

Mr. Rabin said that he and Mr. Arafat had different interpretations of the outline peace accord negotiated in secret and signed by Israel and the PLO in September.

The prime minister's spokesman, Oded Ben Ami, said the talks had made no progress on any of the major differences.

Mr. Rabin said, "We decided to give ourselves certain time to rethink and to meet again in Egypt in 10 days." He refused to tell reporters whether Israel

would make a token gesture on Monday to mark the deadline. Israeli officials said that he might release some of about 10,000 Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli prisons.

The inability to begin the Israeli withdrawal by the deadline set in Washington three months ago was a bitter blow to the Palestinians, especially with violence in the occupied territories on the rise and disenchantment with Mr. Arafat splintering the ranks of his movement.

Jewish settlers, as well as many Palestinians, are deeply skeptical about the accord. Even many of Mr. Arafat's staunchest supporters have begun to attack him in recent days because of what they say is his autocratic style and mismanagement.

Hanan Ashrawi, perhaps the Palestinian's most articulate spokeswoman, quit the movement last week and said she would set up an independent human rights group to monitor the performance of the new Palestinian rulers.

The Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho is the first stage in a five-year interim period of self-rule for the Palestinians. During the five-year period, the Israelis and Palestinians will negotiate a permanent peace settlement.

Last three months of negotiations, however, have done nothing to blunt the violence. Jewish settlers and Palestinians have unleashed

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## France in Hollywood Eyes: An Arrogant Protectionist

By Bernard Weinraub

**LOS ANGELES** — With the clock ticking and high noon approaching, the global talks have suddenly revived the movie industry, turning into a kind of improbable melodrama, embroiled by Hollywood studios. There are prominent names involved, like Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg, there's snappy and angry dialogue, there's big money at stake, and there's an unpredictable finale on Wednesday.

At issue is the usually eye-glazing and arcane global negotiations known as GATT, or the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, is the flow of American movies and television programs and new audiovisual technology to lucrative markets overseas. Essentially, the entertainment industry, backed by President Bill Clinton, wants open access. And the Europeans, led by the French, seem adamant about keeping restrictions that diminish profits and perhaps jobs in the United States. American films produce the second largest trade surplus, after airplane sales, of any American industry.

"This is simple protectionism, it's arrogant, as anti-American as you can get," said Frank Price, former chairman of Columbia Pictures and Universal Pictures and now a producer. "What they don't like is that audiences find

American entertainment desirable. They want to protect that."

Other producers and executives agree, noting that there are few limits to the entry of foreign films in the United States, but that audiences here for them are limited. On the other hand, the splashy American films this year — "Jurassic Park," "The Pugnitive," "The Firm" — have proved as successful overseas as they have in the United States.

Robert Shaye, chairman of New Line Cinema, one of the more successful production companies, called the French attitude "ridiculous."

"Entertainment is one of the purest marketplaces in the world," he said. "If people don't like a movie or record they won't see it or buy it. The fact that the American entertainment industry has been so successful on a worldwide basis speaks to the quality and attractiveness of what we're creating."

Within recent months several prominent American directors, produced by Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, the studios' chief lobbyist for 25 years, have become embroiled in a shouting match with European colleagues.

Martin Scorsese, one of the most prominent filmmakers, issued a statement rejecting quotas.

"Closing the borders would not guarantee a rise in creativity in the local countries or even a rise of interest on the part of local audiences," the statement said.

And Mr. Spielberg said in a statement, "Film-makers can find no comfort when their film is barred, or restricted, or otherwise frustrated when they try to take out work to the global public."

But some of the directors' most prominent colleagues in Europe responded angrily. In a

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### Kiosk

#### Victory for Left Seen In Portuguese Voting

**LISBON** (Reuters) — Portugal's ruling center-right Social Democrats were headed for a humiliating defeat in local elections on Sunday, state television forecast.

The Socialist and Communist alliance in Lisbon and the Socialist in Oporto were expected to easily hold these cities, according to a survey for state television, which said the alliance in Lisbon and the Socialists in Oporto would get 53 percent to 57 percent of the votes.

Overall, the television forecast the Socialists would get 108 to 128 of Portugal's 305 local councils and the Social Democrats 110 to 130.

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#### Up and Coming

An occasional series about the names in tomorrow's headlines. Today, Lawrence H. Summers, the senior U.S. official in international finance, Page 2.

#### Rating the World's Best Restaurants:

UNITED STATES

The United States is this week's stop on Patricia Wells's tour to rate the world's top restaurants. The third report in this series by the Trib's restaurant critic, Page 7.

## Russia Sent Missile Launchers to Syria

By Michael R. Gordon

**WASHINGTON** — Over the objections of the United States, Russian cargo planes flew special truck chassis that are commonly used for mobile missile launchers from North Korea to Syria last summer, Clinton administration officials say.

Aides familiar with classified intelligence reports said two large Russian Condor planes had flown the vehicles in August from Susan airfield in North Korea to Damascus. U.S. intelligence officials said the vehicles had probably been taken from there to a missile plant at Nasariya for use in Syria's Scud missile program.

Concerned that the shipment could add to Syria's military potential against Israel, the Clinton administration asked Russia to stop the planes before they left North Korea.

But after failing to persuade President Boris N. Yeltsin's government to halt the flights, the administration sought to keep the episode under wraps, apparently fearing that it could complicate efforts to build support for the Russian president and to persuade Syria to be more forthcoming in the Middle East peace talks.

Clinton administration officials say the flights were undertaken by a private Russian company, not the Russian military, and was motivated by a desire for cash.

The officials said Moscow had been helpful in trying to dissuade North Korea from proceeding with its nuclear program. In addition, they said, Russia recently expelled a senior North Korean diplomat who it said had been trying to lure Russian scientists to his country.

First Deputy Security Minister Sergei Stepashin recently told Moscow Radio that the diplomat, a counselor at the North Korean Embas-

sy in Moscow, had been ordered to return home after the Russian Security Ministry discovered that he was trying to send a large group of Russian scientists to Pyongyang to work on North Korea's missile and space programs.

Washington's Defense Intelligence Agency says North Korea has produced Scud type missiles since the mid-1980s, developing them for its own use and for export in return for hard currency or oil.

In 1992, North Korea sold Scud-C missiles to Syria, which were delivered by way of Iran. The missiles are capable of carrying poison-gas warheads and striking targets in Israel.

In addition to its missiles, North Korea has several types of mobile missile launchers for firing Scuds.

One type is based on a chassis known as the

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## Fear of War Shapes U.S. Role on Korea

By Barton Gellman

**WASHINGTON** — The U.S.-led diplomatic campaign to thwart North Korea's nuclear ambitions has been guided by an overriding fear that the consequences of even a nonnuclear war there would be catastrophic, according to senior officials and government documents.

A classified Defense Department estimate said a conventional war with North Korea would require up to four months of "very high-intensity combat" by a combined South Korean and American force that included U.S. reinforcements comparable to those sent to the 1991 Gulf War.

Defense Secretary Les Aspin and General John M. Shalikshvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reviewed for President Bill

Clinton at a White House meeting the standing plan, known as USFK 50-27, to deter and, if need be, repel a North Korean attack.

[Mr. Aspin said Sunday in a television interview: "We are confident that the situation in Korea at least is not getting worse in terms of building bombs. We are comfortable now that they are not building the potential for more nuclear bombs. The situation is not deteriorating now. They're not developing more plutonium in order to make more nuclear bombs. It is no more dangerous now than it was six months ago."

[The United States is determined to do all it can diplomatically to end the impasse over full inspections, he said. The Associated Press reported: "We will not let the North Koreans become a nuclear power. It is the focus of all of our efforts."]

Unlike the desert war with Iraq, a war in Korea would begin just 50 kilometers (about 30 miles) from the South Korean capital and economic center. The proximity of North Korean troops to Seoul ensures that a war on the peninsula would create tens or hundreds of thousands of casualties and weak economic havoc well beyond the South Korean border. Seoul accounts for a quarter of South Korea's population and nearly half its economic output.

For these reasons, the imperative to stop a battle of nerves from erupting into hostilities underscores every discussion of U.S. options to limit North Korea's nuclear program. Senior officials say. Not only does this caution rule out preemptive use of force, it also

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PEOPLE  
Sunset Boulevard  
and Opening in L.A.  
WINNING  
MINISTS



# Economist Taking His Roots to an Exponential Power

By Lawrence Malkin  
*International Herald Tribune*

WASHINGTON — They call him the crown prince of economics. Lawrence H. Summers has two uncles who are Nobel prize recipients, was only 29 when he became a full professor at Harvard, and now, 10 years later, is the senior U.S. official in international finance and still a man very much on the make.

Friends say he has his eye on the chairmanship of the Federal Reserve Board, perhaps after

## Up and Coming

An occasional series about the names in tomorrow's headlines.

some seasoning on Wall Street or at the helm of the World Bank.

His present post representing the United States at Group of Seven meetings as Treasury undersecretary for international affairs and watching over the dollar is the biggest advance in a career. Unlike many of his academic brethren, he has never scrupled to dirty his hands with politics and talk in plain English instead of the mathematical jargon of his profession.

"It's not only in the long run that the power of ideas matters," he says. "I try to take an approach that relies on the power of reason and the power of argument, and to believe that ultimately being right — or trying to be, and marshaling the arguments — has more of an impact than negotiating."

All of this is in his genes. His teachers include his Nobel laureate uncles, Kenneth Arrow, a mathematical genius, and Paul Samuelson, whose freshman textbook introduced a generation to Keynesian economics, of which Mr. Summers is an unabashed partisan. Both uncles were awarded the American Economics Association's medal for the best economist under 40; Mr. Summers received the award this year.

His father and mother are econ-

omists at the University of Pennsylvania and never went out for the evening without leaving behind a math problem for Larry to solve.

When he was 11, and the family had one television set and three brothers, their father devised an economist's answer. Each member of the family got 20 cents a week to bid for half-hour time slots, which worked until Robert Summers' sons outbid him one Saturday night on the final half hour of a two-hour Hitchcock movie. The system was soon abolished, and the Summers family got a second TV.

Such vivid demonstrations of the collision between political reality and economic theory are what distinguish Mr. Summers as an economist.

He was a vigorous and unforgiving captain of the championship student debating team at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his academic work is based on hard evidence about investment, taxation, employment and macroeconomic management. That work may not be of Nobel quality, said a former MIT colleague, Rudiger Dornbusch, but the "sheer mass is what impresses."

At home with his wife and their three young children, Mr. Summers lives and breathes his profession. He disdains work in the garden because he reckons he can use his time more profitably doing what he likes to do, which is solve economic problems. He plays tennis as he conducts an argument: "He never moves, places his spots and stares you down," Mr. Dornbusch asserts.

"He thinks like an economist thinks — about trade-offs and costs, and the imperfections of the market," said George Perry, editor of Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, which took Mr. Summers on its advisory board 15 years ago. (Stranded once in California without a motel reservation, he exulted



Mr. Summers during a recent congressional hearing. "It's not only in the long run that the power of ideas matters," he says.

to his wife, Victoria, a tax lawyer, over the motel that raised its prices for the last vacant rooms as proof of market scarcity in action.)

As economic adviser to the Democrats' ill-starred 1988 presidential candidate, Governor Michael S. Dukakis of Massachusetts, Mr. Summers never faltered in prescribing the economics profession's preferred nostrum of deficit reduction and higher taxes even though, as he confided at the time, "politicians are not listening because they don't like what we have to tell them."

Last year, he booked up with a much smoother politician, Bill Clinton, and presented proposals with a happier spin: corporate tax credits to stimulate job-creating business investment quickly and help take up the slack created by the fiscal austerity he knew would still be necessary to start closing the deficit.

He was already on record as warning that too tight a budget, in America as in Europe and Japan, would be "Hooverite madness." Mr. Clinton, elected president, took up the idea as insurance against a triple dip back into recession at Mr. Summers' urging, but Republicans in Congress killed it.

Larry Summers, as everyone

calls him, chalked this up to learning the ways of Washington. Never a man to suffer fools gladly, he has learned the hard way about Washington political infighting from the environmental movement and his in-house standard-bearer, Vice President Al Gore.

While serving as chief economist at the World Bank last year, Mr. Summers had the audacity and, he admits, the stupidity, to put his name on an internal memo suggesting somewhat flippantly that poor countries might accept some more industrial pollution in exchange for more foreign investment, as many in fact are already doing.

Because of the memo, Mr. Gore's staff saw to it that Mr. Summers was passed over for the job he wanted — chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors — even though he had the support of the academic community. The Nobel laureate Franco Modigliani said Mr. Summers, a former student of his at MIT, had been "everybody's choice as the leading policy economist in the country."

sure what Treasury policy was toward the dollar for the last decade.

He has helped organize a novel system of releasing money in graduated amounts from the International Monetary Fund for Russia's economic reconstruction, negotiated some terms of the opening of foreign financial markets under the Uruguay Round of trade talks and is engaged in difficult economic negotiations with China.

In international economic forums, although Mr. Summers has not hesitated to lecture the Japanese on the need to stimulate their economy, they say he does it politely.

Europeans were complimented from the start when Mr. Summers showed up fully briefed on their problems and ready to listen while resisting, or at least wisely trying to resist, a natural tendency to see such political problems as Europe's exchange mechanism troubles purely in terms of economics.

Only one financial incident has drawn mixed reviews, but it is an important one: The Treasury began the year putting pressure on the Japanese by talking down the dollar, thus making Japanese exports more expensive. The Fed urged patience, but in August, when the dollar began falling perilously close to the psychologically dangerous level of 100 yen or less, it was Mr. Summers who quickly reversed course and ordered the Fed to buy dollars lest a free-fall in the currency force higher interest rates and wreck the Clinton economic program.

"He had the good sense to back off and ignore the advice of all those academics who were telling him to force up the yen at all costs," said Geoffrey Bell, executive secretary of the Group of 30, a study group of prominent bankers and academics. "It was his baptism of fire, and to his credit he quickly realized how the real world works and knew what to do about it."

Domestically, he has rebuilt intellectual bridges to the Federal Reserve, which was never quite

## Q & A: Warning Signs for East Asia's Agriculture

As millions of people in rural Asia flock to towns and cities in search of work and a better life, questions are being raised about the ability of the world's most populous region to feed itself. Klaus Lampe, a German who is director-general of the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines, discussed this with Michael Richardson of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. Why is agriculture important for the future of East Asia, where industrialization is the chosen path to prosperity?

A. Asia's future is certainly in manufacturing. But even if half the region's population is living in cities, what will happen to the other half? People need food to survive. They cannot eat microchips.

To produce that food with less land, water, fertilizer, pesticides and labor is a tremendous challenge for farmers, governments and agricultural research institutes.

Q. What are the most worrying trends in East Asian agriculture?

A. The loss of land from urban encroachment and many forms of careless. Ero-

sion and declining soil fertility are just two of the warning signs. About two and a half million hectares of forest are disappearing each year along with hundreds of thousands of hectares of arable land.

The dynamic people in the countryside who could build a modern agricultural sector are moving to the towns and cities. It is predicted that in 13 Asian countries in the next 10 years there will be more than 400 million new migrants into the urban centers.

Q. How can people be persuaded to stay in the countryside?

A. We need much more public awareness about the problem. Governments must make the right decisions to reverse the trend toward megacities. Decentralization is a key policy. Industries should be moved to rural areas to provide work for landless laborers.

Living conditions in the countryside should be made much more attractive. Asia is losing rural cultures and ideals as well as land. For example, rice production is not just about food but about storing water and managing its flow.

Q. Why are mountains and uplands im-

portant in the cycle of sustainable agriculture?

A. The lowlands, where most of the food is grown, depend on the water storage capacity of the higher areas. The water is collected in places that have permanent vegetation and released when it is needed for cultivation in the lowlands.

The upland damage in East Asia is extensive. Most of the floods and natural disasters in and around the lowland cities are bills being paid for upland deforestation and other abuses of the ecosystem.

Q. With population increasing and arable land diminishing, will Asia be able to feed itself in the next century?

A. This part of the world has tremendous intellectual potential, dynamism and will-power to get things done. But I am concerned that there may not be enough time left to make the drastic changes which are needed.

If East Asian countries continue to do business in the next 30 years as they have in the last 30, it will be to the detriment of the environment not only for this region but perhaps for the rest of the world.

Even with a population of 5 billion, Asia should be able to feed itself. The question is with what and how. Will the systems that are chosen be stable enough to avoid social unrest, bearing in mind that at the beginning of the next century less than 20 percent of the region's population will be classified as rich. The rest will be poor, very poor. The patience of Asia's poor is admirable, but not endless.

Q. Can science produce new, high yielding types of rice and other crops to help Asia produce the food it needs?

A. I am very confident we can. I am also sure that food production can be done in a much more sustainable and environmentally conscious way than at present.

The International Rice Research Institute, which was created 35 years ago by the Rockefeller and Ford foundations and is now supported by more than 25 donors, is trying to develop a perennial, high yield rice strain so that the small farmer will not have to replant each year. This is part of a major research effort to make rice cultivation more productive and attractive, even in marginal areas. Only a farmer who thinks he has a good future will be able to convince his children to stay on the land.

## Publisher To Sue Over Attali Book

By Barry James  
*International Herald Tribune*

PARIS — A French publisher will take a rival to court this week alleging that Jacques Attali, the onetime aide to President Francois Mitterrand, resorted to plagiarism in his best-selling book "Verbatim."

A spokesman for Odile Jacob publishers asserted that Mr. Attali lifted 43 long passages from a manuscript it was planning to publish next year based on conversations between Mr. Mitterrand and the author Elie Wiesel.

As a consequence, it is suing Editions Fayard, the publisher of "Verbatim," for unfair competition. The case will open in a Paris court on Tuesday.

Mr. Attali had access to the manuscript as part of his previous job as a presidential aide. He has acknowledged that he made use of the conversations in "Verbatim," which is described as a frank account of the Mitterrand presidency. In some cases, Mr. Attali misrepresented them as conversations he had had with the president.

The spokesman for Odile Jacob said that Fayard had been given ample time to correct the alleged plagiarism by removing the disputed passages but had not.

Mr. Wiesel has demanded an apology, the elimination of the alleged plagiarisms, and the withdrawal from sale of all books containing them. He said that he had the full support of Mr. Mitterrand.

But Mr. Mitterrand has not commented on the case, and a spokesman for Fayard said recently that the publisher had not received a complaint from him.

The plagiarism charge has not been the only controversy this year involving Mr. Attali. He was forced to resign in June as president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, amid heavy criticism of his performance and lavish spending.

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## Governor of Hong Kong Shrugs Off China Warning

HONG KONG — Governor Chris Patten on Sunday brushed aside China's warning that it would not sit idly by if Hong Kong becomes chaotic as a result of political changes.

"We have here in Hong Kong a stable, prosperous, incredibly successful community, recognized as such by the whole of the world, recognized as such, I think, by our neighbors in China," he said, "and we are going to continue to be stable and prosperous, flourishing under the rule of law."

Beijing, already furious with Mr. Patten for putting forward his proposals for limited democracy ahead of the 1997 handover of Hong Kong to China, has been enraged by his decision to put some of his ideas before the colony's legislature after months of negotiations with China went nowhere.

The Chinese foreign minister, Qian Qichen, said Saturday that China still hoped for cooperation with Britain over Hong Kong.

"However, if there can no longer be cooperation, we cannot sit idly by while there is chaos in Hong Kong," he said.

Mr. Qian did not say specifically what China would do, but he praised comments made 11 years ago by China's paramount leader, Deng Xiaoping, in which he threatened to relax Hong Kong before 1997 in the event of serious disturbances there.

On Sunday Mr. Patten reiterated that the Hong Kong government was introducing its partial electoral bill to the Legislative Council to give the British more time to negotiate the issues of the full package in talks with the Chinese.

But he added, "We want to go on negotiating at the table. We are not going to leave the table. Talking is better than walking."

## Paris Weekly Is Bombed

PARIS — A small bomb exploded outside the Paris office of the leftist weekly Le Nouvel Observateur overnight, French radio reported Sunday. It said there were no injuries and no one had claimed responsibility.

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## WORLD BRIEFS

### Chinese Plane Hijacked, 5th in Month

TAIPEI (Reuters) — An employee of a Chinese state-run company who said that he was armed with a bomb hijacked a Chinese airliner to Taiwan on Sunday. It was the ninth such hijacking since April, the second in four days and the fifth in a month.

The Xiamen Airlines Boeing 737-200 with 92 passengers and eight crew members on board, was headed to the southeastern city of Xiamen from the northeastern city of Harbin, a police spokesman said. No injuries were reported. As in previous hijackings, the hijacker will be detained on Taiwan for trial on air piracy charges and not be sent back immediately, a Taiwan official said. The plane, crew and other passengers were to be sent back to China on Sunday.

The hijacker, Qi Dachuan, 23, a salesman of the Harbin branch of China National Light Industrial Products Import and Export Corp., surrendered to the authorities at Taipei's international airport, the spokesman said.

### Japanese Empress Regaining Speech

TOKYO (WP) — Empress Michiko has started talking again, two months after she fell mute due to a mysterious malady that royal doctors have attributed to "deep sadness" following harsh criticism in the media.

The Imperial Household Agency, which oversees palace affairs, announced over the weekend that the 59-year-old wife of Emperor Akihito had managed to say the word *heika*, "your majesty," to the emperor last week, and had also enunciated her daughter's name, Says, Doctors said she was also whispering faint words that might be complete sentences.

The report seemed to indicate that the empress was beginning to pull out of the psychological condition that has left her mute since she collapsed Oct. 20. She fainted that day, but recovered consciousness quickly and seemed to be in fine shape physically except that she had been unable to speak. Just before her collapse, she had issued a statement complaining about criticism in the press. Press reports here said the empress had experienced a similar breakdown and loss of speech in 1963, when she was newly married into the royal family and was reportedly receiving hard treatment from her mother-in-law.

### Peace Talks on Somalia Collapse

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — Somalia peace talks collapsed Sunday and faction leaders went home, although aid donors have warned that continued fighting could lead to a cutoff in help from abroad.

General Mohammed Farah Aidid, leader of one group, accused the United Nations of contributing to the collapse by inviting rival faction leaders to form a government right away. General Aidid leads the Somali National Alliance, a coalition of three groups opposed to 12 factions led by his rival, Mohammed Ali Mahdi.

U.S. peacekeepers — the main force behind the UN mission in Somalia — are set to leave the country by the end of March, raising the prospect of more turmoil. About 2,500 of the 8,200 American troops will leave by Christmas, Defense Secretary Les Aspin said Sunday.

### Turk Killed in Error, Iran Rebels Say

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's largest opposition group said Sunday that a Turkish diplomat whom its security guards shot to death in Baghdad was mistaken for an Iranian government agent trying to attack its headquarters.

The Mujahidin Khalq, the Iranian rebel group, called Saturday's slaying regrettable and expressed condolences to the victim's family. There was no independent confirmation of its account, which was given in a statement to The Associated Press.

The group, which is based in the Iraqi capital, said Caglar Yucel, an administrative attaché, was shot as he entered the "security limits" around the Mujahidin headquarters in Baghdad. A second man, a communications technician at the Turkish Embassy, was slightly wounded.

### Turk Cypriots in Parliamentary Vote

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Turkish Cypriots voted Sunday for a new parliament for their breakaway state in northern Cyprus in a ballot that should also reflect citizens' feelings about talks brokered by the United Nations over the divided island.

Among the seven parties running 251 candidates for 50 seats are those of Rauf Denktash, the Turkish Cypriot president, and of Prime Minister Dervish Eroglu, who has challenged Mr. Denktash's efforts for a compromise settlement with the Greek Cypriot government.

The eastern Mediterranean island has been divided since 1974, when Turkey sent in troops after a coup by Greek Cypriots seeking union with Greece. Nine years later the Turkish Cypriots proclaimed the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which has been recognized only by Turkey.

### For the Record

At least 100 people were massacred in and around Kirundo, Burundi, local clergy and expatriates said Sunday. They said members of the minority Tutsi ethnic group went on a killing spree Wednesday against majority Hutus. (Readers)

## TRAVEL UPDATE

### Naples Curbs Cars Over Air Pollution

NAPLES (AP) — Officials closed the city to most private traffic Sunday after air pollution over the last three days sent at least 44 people to hospitals with coughs, irritated eyes and shortness of breath.

The authorities said they were not sure what caused the bad air, but there was speculation that it was industrial pollution coupled with exhaust from heavy traffic. Pollution was the latest plague for chaotic Naples, whose 1.2 million citizens have suffered over the last several months through spells of undrinkable water, uncollected garbage and broken traffic lights.

French railroad workers have issued a national strike warning for Wednesday and hope to paralyze traffic completely for at least an hour that morning. (HT)

Malawi's opposition, conceding to a court injunction, has called off a three-day general strike that had been planned to begin Monday and designed to force President Kamuzu Banda's government to accept its tough conditions on the powers of an acting president. (AFP)

### This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

- MONDAY: Maha.
- WEDNESDAY: Kyrgyzstan.
- THURSDAY: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Israel, Kazakhstan, South Africa.
- FRIDAY: Ramadan.
- SATURDAY: Niger.

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters.

## U.S. Finds Gaps in Tarmac Security

By Martin Tolchin  
*New York Times Service*

WASHINGTON — Federal investigators have found that although U.S. airports have made progress in screening airline passengers, they have failed to keep unauthorized people out of restricted areas, including tarmacs where unoccupied planes could be targets of terrorists.

In spot checks at four of the nation's largest airports, a Transportation Department report said, federal investigators walked unchallenged past security guards and passed through emergency doors, setting off alarms that elicited no response.

In one case, an investigator carried a deactivated hand grenade through a metal detector.

The investigators said they did not try to board any aircraft parked at the airports. The agency's inspector general office, which carried out the investigation during the summer, said that reports from security managers around the nation indicated that the same problems probably existed at all U.S. airports.

The report was issued in September, and unclassified portions were made public last week. The agency would not identify the four

airports, saying that information was irrelevant because the problems were widespread.

Since September, federal officials have met with airline and airport executives and taken steps to tighten security.

The investigators, who dressed casually and displayed no visible identification, gained access to tarmacs and other restricted areas in 15 of 20 attempts at the 4 airports.

"Once we gained access, we wandered around aircraft parking areas, baggage processing centers, maintenance areas and ramp administrative offices," the report said.

David Hinson, who heads the Federal Aviation Administration, minimized the security threat posed by terrorists in his formal response to the report.

But Transportation Secretary Federico F. Peña was "extremely concerned" by the laxness revealed by the report and has ordered an extensive review of airport security procedures, a department spokesman said.

"The Federal Aviation Administration stated the problem probably exists throughout the domestic airport system, and our ability to enter secured airport areas by circumventing access controls, and the failure of airport and airline employees to challenge thereafter, represents a serious problem which it will address."

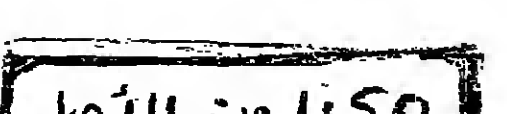
The investigators said that in the case of the deactivated hand grenade that was carried through a metal detector, the object was not detected because the screening by a "hand wand" was poorly conducted.

In his response, Mr. Hinson said: "The vulnerabilities identified by the Office of the Inspector General need to be placed in the context of the current threat to civil aviation in the United States, and the current record of civil aviation security. Otherwise, they lead to overly alarming conclusions."

"The assessed threat to domestic civil aviation at this time is low, and there is little evidence that it will not remain so," he said, noting that there had been only 29 terrorist attacks in the United States since 1988, and none involved civil aviation.

Officials of the agency said they were studying rule changes that would clarify responsibility for access to restricted areas, and the manner in which security officials challenge those without proper identification.

They also believe that there are too many exceptions to the rule requiring identification badges, including exemptions for some airport, executives and employees.





# STATESIDE / DESPAIR IN SAN FRANCISCO

## Gay Men's Unsafe Habits, and AIDS Rate, on Rise

By Jane Gross  
New York Times Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Here in the gay capital of America, where the decade-long AIDS epidemic has spread not just death but also despair, public health officials say there are ominous signs of a second wave of AIDS infection.

Many gay men, saying they are numb with loss, fatalistic about their own survival, unwilling to face a measure of sexual deprivation and eager for the attention showered on the sick and the dying, are again practicing unprotected anal intercourse. Experts say this behavior is increasing the infection rates.

"It's hard to say if this depresses me more or scares me more, but it sure doesn't look good," said Ron Stall, a behavioral epidemiologist at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California at San Francisco, who was one of the first to chart the trend.

The conclusion Dr. Stall and others have drawn comes from a combined reading of epidemiological data, which shows a rising infection rate, and behavior surveys, which show a worrisome level of unsafe sexual behavior.

These experts and some leading homosexuals have turned to focus groups and other in-depth interviewing techniques to seek an explanation.

Among every 100 uninfected gay men here, there were 18 new infections in 1982, a rate that dropped to less than 1 in 1985. That has moved back up to 2 out of 100 now, and is twice that high among men under age 25. The increase is viewed as alarming by health officials and is the clearest sign of a corresponding increase in unsafe behavior.

Recent surveys of sexual practices, including polls by the

San Francisco Health Department and a market research firm, confirm those fears.

The surveys indicate that one of every three homosexual men in San Francisco is engaging in unsafe sex, primarily anal intercourse without condoms.

Public health experts here say that a partial explanation for the surge in unsafe behavior is that many AIDS educators in San Francisco declared victory prematurely and left the field after many homosexuals in the city made public health history early in the epidemic by changing their behavior, virtually overnight.

But in a city where virtually everyone knows that anal intercourse without a condom spreads AIDS, lack of information does not fully account for the phenomenon.

"It's not an education problem here, so something else must be going on," said Tom Moon, a therapist with a largely gay practice. "You hear people say, 'If you have all the facts and are still doing this, you're just stupid and you deserve what you get.' Well, what that leaves out is psychology. People have emotional lives. They're not just information-processing machines."

Ask the therapists here to explain relapses into potentially lethal sexual practices and they talk of accumulated grief, trauma and survivors' guilt.

Gregory Murray, for example, said his clients often fantasize about joining friends and loved ones who have died.

"One of the ways of dealing with grief is to join in with the dying and dead," said Mr. Murray.

In surveys about sexual practices, some men said that they did not use a condom because they wanted to enhance their pleasure, or they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or were swept away by passion.

The younger men, who have been most exhaustively surveyed, further report a sense of youthful invulnerability, a belief that AIDS is the plague of an older generation and not their own, and a dread of growing old in a culture that prizes youth and beauty.

But in more free-flowing conversations, men in all age groups tell a more complicated story of dark emotional, cultural and existential forces that erode their resolve to shun dangerous sex.

Many in this city, where nearly half the gay men have HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, say that they believe infection is unavoidable.

A man at a recent safe sex forum agreed. "It makes you feel like what's the point?" he said. "Eventually you're going to get it, so why resist? We're surrounded."

With homosexual identity and AIDS so intertwined, particularly in gay enclaves like the city's Castro district, some men said they were attracted to the idea of getting sick because it would deepen their sense of belonging.

A 32-year-old airline mechanic, recently infected, said in an interview that "I thought if I was HIV-positive I'd be so much gay." He added that "people are looking for the red badge of courage, and you get that when you convert" from being HIV negative to carrying the virus.

In the early years of the epidemic, many men said, they considered their behavior changes to be temporary sacrifices. But without a cure or a vaccine, they now find themselves facing a lifetime of circumstantial sex.

"Safe sex is not incorporated naturally into a life," said Walt Odets, a therapist. "O.K., three years; O.K., five years; O.K., eight years. But the rest of my life? No. That's not possible."



SANTA HANGS 10 — A surfer in Malibu, California, getting into the Christmas spirit.

### ★ POLITICAL NOTES ★

**A Key Justice Aide Didn't Pay Local Taxes**

WASHINGTON — In all the commotion of helping Bill Clinton become president and then assuming one of the nation's top law enforcement jobs, Associate Attorney General Webster L. Hubbell overlooked some of life's little details.

Like paying his taxes back home.

The Justice Department's No. 3 official until recently owed nearly \$1,000 in personal property taxes on three vehicles and his household furniture, according to local officials. But Mr. Hubbell said he paid the bill after receiving needling phone calls from his friends who read his name in a list of tax delinquents published Nov. 29 in the local newspaper.

"We had moved and sold our house and I didn't have a bill because of the move, and all of a sudden I got a call from my buddies and they said, 'Hubbell, you haven't paid,'" he said.

Local tax rolls also list a \$4,700 1992 tax delinquency for a warehouse Hubbell owned in Little Rock, according to Pulaski County tax officials. Mr. Hubbell said the bill, and the additional \$700 in penalties that have been added to it, should be paid by his tenant who in September bought the warehouse valued by the county at \$470,000. (WFP)

**House Drops Inquiry of Arkansas S&L**

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the House Banking Committee has decided to end his investigation into the collapse of an Arkansas savings and loan association without seeking access to government records about the institution, which was owned by a friend and business partner of Mr. Clinton's.

The chairman, Henry R. Gonzalez, a Texas Democrat, agreed last month to a Republican request for a bipartisan examination of the failure of the savings and loan, Madison Guaranty.

But last week, when the committee's Republicans sought from state and federal agencies their regulatory records on Madison, a routine step in such congressional inquiries, Mr. Gonzalez declined to go along.

Mr. Gonzalez issued a statement last week saying he had determined "that the facts of the case at this time do not warrant further investigation by the committee" and "are most appropriately addressed by the Justice Department and the bank regulators, not the committee."

The Justice Department is conducting a criminal investigation in the Madison case in connection with numerous loans, investments and other transactions by the institution. (NYT)

**Clinton Tries to Repair Broken Labor Link**

WASHINGTON — President Clinton has met with the labor leader Lane Kirkland at the White House in an effort to repair a relationship frayed by the North American Free Trade Agreement and to enlist his support for the administration's health care plan.

In the end, the president seemed to have been only partly successful.

After meeting alone for 45 minutes in the Oval Office, a session arranged at Mr. Clinton's behest, the two men declined to speak to reporters. But their associates said they had agreed to end the bitter public debate over the trade agreement, which had pitted the Democratic president against one of the bedrock constituencies of his party, and to try to work together in areas of mutual agreement like health care. (NYT)

**Quote / Unquote**

President Clinton in his weekly radio address, talking tough against crime in a week in which a New York man shot and killed six commuters on the Long Island Rail Road: "Let's face it, drugs and guns and violence fill a vacuum where the values of civilized life used to be." (AP)

**Away From Politics**

- A sixth victim has died from wounds received during a rampage by a gunman on a New York commuter train last week. Hospital officials in Mineola, New York said Amy Federick, 27, had been on life support after being shot in the neck.
- Barge crews on inland waterways would be subject to tighter licensing and training requirements under a proposal by the Coast Guard. The regulations, which would also require radar and other equipment on towboats, were formulated as a result of an accident in Alabama in September when a barge hit a railroad bridge, causing the derailment of a passenger train and the deaths of 47 people.
- It's safe to drink the water in Washington, D.C. The authorities lifted an order to boil drinking water after tests found no trace of a parasite, cryptosporidium, that sickened hundreds of thousands of people in Milwaukee last spring.
- Conditions at county jails in Mississippi violate the U.S. constitution, the Justice Department said, citing maggot-infested cells and fire hazards as well as racially segregated holding cells for drunkards.
- A woman was killed and another person was injured when they were hit by a steel girder dislodged by gusting winds outside the Georgia Dome stadium in Atlanta. (W.F.A.P. NYT)

## A Sigh of Relief on the Hubble

### 'We Went Into This Scared,' Endeavour Astronaut Says

Complied by Our Staff From Dispatches

HOUSTON — The Hubble Space Telescope mechanics said Sunday that they had started their mission anxiously and did not relax until all their repairs were completed.

Released from the cargo bay of the shuttle on Friday, the telescope floated away in a slightly higher orbit with new sets of corrective optics, rejuvenated power and electronic systems, and the fervent wishes of astronomers that its troubled years are over.

Jeffrey A. Hoffman, an Endeavour astronaut, said the crew did not celebrate its success until he and Story Musgrave finished the fifth and final spacewalk of the mission on Thursday.

"There are always surprises out there, and it's not over until it's over. In fact, until we dropped Hubble off from the end of the arm, we weren't finished," Mr. Hoffman said Sunday as the 11-day mission drew to a close.

When the Hubble telescope was released from the end of the shuttle's robotic arm, the astronauts

fired steering jets twice to move the shuttle safely away from the telescope at a rate of about a foot (30 centimeters) a second. Mission officials said the telescope's aperture door was reopened and that all operations appeared to be normal.

The \$1.6 billion telescope underwent the most ambitious repair job in space history. The astronauts encountered only a few snags, among them a warped solar panel that had to be tossed away.

Mr. Musgrave said he and the three other spacewalkers were prepared for just about anything.

"I think we went into this scared," he said. "It meant an incredible amount to us and to others to get this job done."

He added that for the most part "until we had gotten the total job done on day five, in which we did have a profound kind of relaxation among the team, we were mostly technical and mostly business and wanted to get that job done."

Mr. Musgrave and Mr. Hoffman stepped into space three times last week. Kathryn C. Thornton and Thomas D. Akers went out twice.

No previous U.S. space mission had had more than four spacewalks.

Claude Nicollier, a Swiss astronaut, had the critical job of capturing and releasing Hubble with the shuttle's robot arm. He also used the arm to maneuver the spacewalkers around the telescope.

Mr. Nicollier got a call of congratulations on Sunday from Ruth Dreifuss, the Swiss minister of internal affairs.

"If there was an unused hero this mission, it would be Claude and his arm, because without them we could not have worked the way we did and been as successful as we were," the Endeavour commander Richard Covey told Mrs. Dreifuss.

Although mission officials expressed cautious optimism, it could be the end of January before astronomers will know if the telescope is able to see clearly to the outer reaches of the universe.

The astronauts spent much of Sunday getting ready to come home. Endeavour was scheduled to land at 12:26 A.M. Monday at Cape Canaveral, Florida. The shuttle was launched on Dec. 2. (AP, NYT)

## Alice Tully Dies at 91, Built N.Y. Concert Hall

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Alice Tully, 91, who devoted her life to music and gave New York the concert hall that bears her name, died here Friday. She suffered a stroke two years ago.

She was born in Corning, New York, and was a granddaughter of Amory Houghton Jr., who founded the Corning Glass Works. Her father was a lawyer and two-time New York state senator. Miss Tully pursued a singing career in her youth, performing in Europe and the United States between the world wars.

Later she came forward, at first anonymously, with most of the \$4.5 million it took to build a chamber music recital hall in the new Lincoln Center. Drawing on her knowledge of concert houses as a performer and spectator, Miss Tully influenced the hall's look and its amenities. She also helped form its resident company.

Lindbergh and Anne Morrow Lindbergh, born eight years after the sensational kidnapping and killing of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr. After living and studying in France for a number of years, Miss Lindbergh moved to Washington, D.C., where she taught and wrote several books, most of them for children.

Elvire Popesco, 97, a Romanian-born actress who delighted the French public with her aristocratic looks in dozens of light comedies and films for more than half a century, died at her Paris home Saturday. She had a meteoric career as actress and theater director in Bucharest before moving at age 27 to France, where she directed theaters and acted, often in plays written for her by leading playwrights.

Frederick Forsch, 78, a retired New York investment banker who amassed one of the best collections of Churchill memorabilia outside official archives, died in New York City on Dec. 3. He had had diabetes. Mr. Forsch's collection, built over half a century, included signed first editions of nearly every book by Sir Winston, as well as manuscripts and more than 100 unpublished letters written between 1893 and 1960.

**Anne Lindbergh, Writer, Was Daughter of Aviator**

THEFTORD, Vermont (AP) — Anne Spencer Lindbergh, 53, a writer, teacher and the elder daughter of the aviator Charles A. Lindbergh, died of cancer Friday. She was one of six children of Mr.

## AMERICAN TOPICS

### Reagan Is Rated 'Below Average' By Most U.S. Historians in a Poll

Nearly two out of three American historians, or 62 percent, when asked in a poll to give an early verdict on Ronald Reagan's place in history, rated him as below average or worse. Mr. Reagan served two terms, from 1981 to 1989.

The survey was conducted by Robert K. Murray of Pennsylvania State University and Tim H. Blessing of Alvernia College in Reading, Pennsylvania, for a revision of their 1988 book, "Greatness in the White House."

They sent 164 questions to about 750 historians chosen at random from a list kept by the American Historical Association. The 481 responses showed a broad diversity of opinion:

- 18 percent called Mr. Reagan a total failure.
- 44 percent rated him as below average.
- 17 percent ranked him as average.
- 20 percent saw him as above average or near great.
- 1 percent ranked him as great.

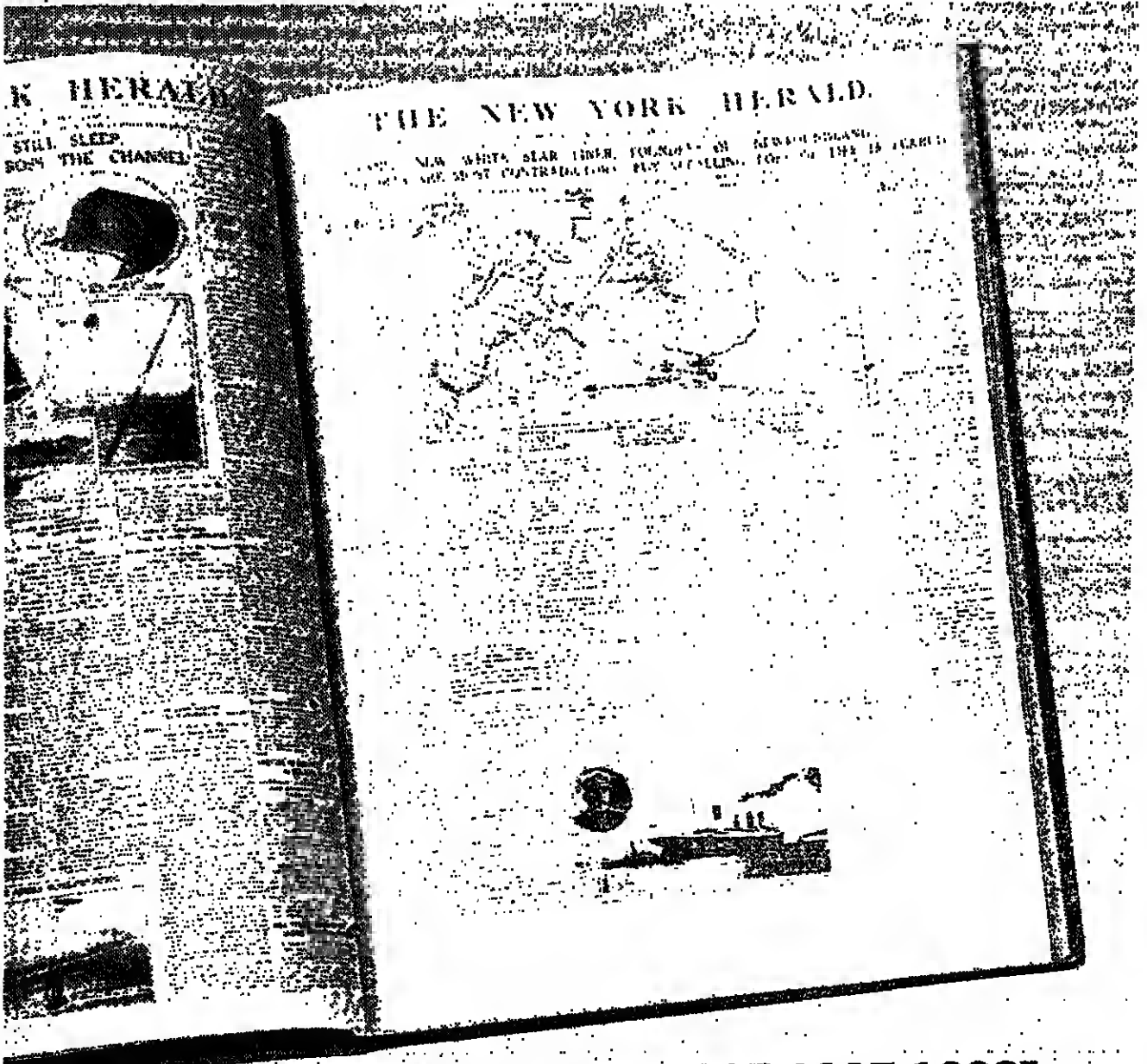
Mr. Murray and Mr. Blessing said the historians' largely harsh judgment may mellow over the years. They said it generally takes 25 or 30 years for a president's place in history to stabilize. Harry S. Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower, for example, rate far better today than when they left office.

When Dan Quayle, a golf enthusiast, was vice president, the U.S. Secret Service's code name for him was "Scorecard."

The U.S. Army journal Military Review published an article by Charles T. Harrison in its May issue titled "Hell in a Hand Basket: The Threat of Portable Nuclear Weapons." The author was identified as a commercial pilot with a science degree and a member of the Mensa Society for ultrabright people. All true, but the magazine has since discovered that Mr. Harrison, 47, also has been confined for the last nine years in a Nashville, Tennessee, mental hospital after killing his mother and being ruled not guilty by reason of insanity.

What did Abraham Lincoln, Groucho Marx and Winston Churchill have in common? All habitually wore bow ties, says David Seibelman in the Los Angeles Times. The bow tie, he writes, "is a piece of sartorial impertinence" and "an insouciant touch to the drab dress of the male." "It is a sign of youthfulness in body, mind and spirit."

Arthur Higbee



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ONLY RUBBLE LEFT — A 12-story apartment block outside Kuala Lumpur collapsed after it was hit by a landslide, killing at least one person. About 50 people were believed trapped in the ruins. Nearby apartment blocks have been evacuated as a precaution. A consortium signed a contract last month to build twin 85-story office towers in the city that would be among world's tallest.

# Chilean Victor Wants Full Civilian Rule

**SANTIAGO** — President-elect Eduardo Frei, fresh from a landslide election victory the day before, said Sunday he would "fight to restore full presidential authority over the military."

Returning the military to civilian command is "a matter of principle" and not a move aimed personally at General Augusto Pinochet, the former military ruler and still commander of the army, Mr. Frei said at a press conference.

Mr. Frei, the 51-year-old son of the late Eduardo Frei, president from 1964 to 1970, acknowledged that amending the constitution that General Pinochet put in place might be difficult since his center-left Coalition for Democracy failed to win a decisive majority.

The coalition gained a 73-to-47 majority in the House of Deputies, the lower house, but the night kept control of the Senate by a margin of 25-to-21. Of the 25, eight senators were appointed by General Pinochet before he handed over power in 1990 to his elected successor, President Patricio Aylwin.

A similar makeup of the previous Congress blocked Mr. Aylwin's efforts to change the constitution.

Mr. Frei, who takes office March 11, would need support from the right to drop key clauses in the military-era constitution, including those preventing the president from firing General Pinochet and other top commanders, and one that provides for the appointed Senate seats.

"I expect a loyal and democratic opposition that would allow us to work out important agreements to push the democratic reforms," he said. "The only way to do it is the way of accords."

With that strategy in mind, he said, "I will seek to restore the full authority that Chilean presidents always had in the past to appoint the military commanders."

That should not create problems in his government's relations with the military, he said.

General Pinochet ruled Chile for 16½ years, after overthrowing Salvador Allende's Marxist government, until calling for elections in December 1989.

A delegation of high-ranking officers is scheduled to pay its respects to Mr. Frei on Monday, a Frei aide said, adding that it was not clear whether General Pinochet would head the group.

Mr. Frei said he planned no changes in the free-market policies carried out by General Pinochet and maintained virtually unchanged by Mr. Aylwin.

Those policies have resulted in average annual economic growth of more than 9 percent for about a decade, with inflation at around 12 percent and unemployment at 5 percent. However, Mr. Frei said he would emphasize social spending and the fight against poverty.

He praised the recent North

American Free Trade Agreement agreement involving the United States, Mexico and Canada, and said Chile was ready to join in.

Results of Saturday's voting show Mr. Frei with 58.01 percent for the ruling coalition. His nearest rival, Arturo Alessandri, an independent who represented a handful of conservative parties, had 24.39 percent. Mr. Alessandri is the grandson of one of Chile's presidents and the nephew of another.

Mr. Frei's father handed over the government to Mr. Allende in 1970, the last time an elected president succeeded another. The election's victory left little doubt that most Chileans are satisfied with the way Mr. Aylwin has run the government and economic policy.

This country of 13 million has led the way in the region's switch from a heavy state presence in the economy, and there was virtually no debate during the campaign about the economic program.

Mr. Frei, a civil engineer who specializes in hydrology, has been in Chilean politics since he joined the campaign to unseat General Pinochet in a 1988 plebiscite. Elected to the Senate in 1989 after losing to Mr. Aylwin for the presidential nomination, he was elected the coalition's standard-bearer last May.

Mr. Alessandri trailed badly in the pre-election polls throughout the campaign, and his only hope had been to deny Mr. Frei an absolute majority to force a runoff.

Jose Pinera, a former cabinet minister under General Pinochet, spoke for the more hard-line right.

The campaign's most colorful candidate, the economist Manfred Max-Neef, was in fourth place. Two far-left candidates shared the remaining vote. (AP, WP)

# TALKS: Self-Rule Pact Delayed

**Continued from Page 1**

A series of attacks in which 38 Palestinians and 18 Israelis have been killed.

Mr. Rabin cautioned that the issues were still thorny and difficult. "What we would like to achieve is not like when we sign a peace treaty with a neighboring Arab country," Mr. Rabin said. "When we signed a peace treaty with Egypt, we knew that there was Egypt on one side and Israel on the other. In the declaration of the interim period, we tried to create a peaceful coexistence between two entities that are interwoven in the territories that crisscross one another, and it is much more complicated."

PLO officials accompanying Mr. Arafat, who have warned that they can only hold Palestinians together with a swift implementation of the agreement, looked grim and upset.

Mr. Arafat had said that the deadline was sacred and he warned that the longer it was delayed the worse the violence would become.

When he was asked if the delay would see an upsurge of violence by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip he answered: "I hope not."

Mr. Rabin, who said that he was sure that an agreement would be reached, called for "patience, coolness and compromise." He added, "We need a little bit more time, and 10 days — bearing in mind over 100 years of Palestinian-Jewish conflict — is not too long."

The gap, however, is wide, according to both sides. The two leaders said that the Palestinian and Israeli economic committee meeting in Paris would continue its work. They said that talks on the

# KOREA: War Would Be Catastrophic, U.S. Estimates

**Continued from Page 1**

Israel's 1981 surprise air attack on an Iraqi nuclear installation, but it also has dampened enthusiasm for even aggressive economic sanctions against what is seen as an increasingly hostile North Korean regime.

Geography and the boundaries set by the 1950-53 Korean War establish much of the military challenge for South Korea's defenses. There are 8,400 North Korean howitzers and 2,400 rocket launchers nearby within range of Seoul's 10 million citizens, according to the Defense Intelligence Agency.

"The worst nightmare" that South Korean armed forces "have always had is that Seoul would come under attack almost immediately," General Merrill A. McPeak, chief of staff of the air force, told reporters at a breakfast meeting this month.

"I don't think any amount of U.S. forces on the peninsula is going to change the geography or any reinforcement plan," he said. "I just can't answer whether we could stop them before they get Seoul or not."

Professional assessments of the Korean balance of power suggest that South Korea, with extensive

U.S. reinforcements, eventually could defeat a North Korean attack, but there is some dissent.

A classified March 1991 report, "Net Assessment on Military Balance in Korea," suggested the North might win with a "checkmate" strategy that threw half of its forces against Seoul and the other half down the east coast to seize Pusan and Kimhae in the south. Control of those objectives, the major points of entry for U.S. reinforcements by sea and air, could prevent the United States from fully joining the fight.

In Pentagon planning scenarios, a war with North Korea is known as "Major Regional Contingency — West." The reference is to West Coast U.S. forces, and those in Hawaii and Japan. The official estimate used for planning force requirements and supply stockpiles assumes that it would take 82 to 112 days — or up to four months — of "very high-intensity conflict" to win the war.

That assumption, which some planners regard as optimistic, is based on U.S. reinforcements on nearly the scale of the 545,000 troops sent to the Gulf.

Robert Gaskin, a retired air

# MISSILES: Russia Flew Launching Parts to Syria

**Continued from Page 1**

MAZ 543, which is manufactured in Minsk, Belarus, formerly part of the Soviet Union. The MAZ 543 chassis is used for Scud vehicles, as well as other military vehicles and heavy civilian trucks like those used to haul pipeline.

Because North Korea has supplied Syria with Scud missiles, it seemed logical to U.S. intelligence analysts that Pyongyang would also try to supply the mobile launchers.

But delivering the missile equipment was not an easy task. Sending it by ship risked interception by Israel or the United States. In early August, U.S. intelligence officials became concerned that North Korea was planning to use Russian planes to transport missile launchers and equipment to Syria.

U.S. intelligence detected two Russian Condor planes at the Sunan airfield in North Korea. The planes, which U.S. officials say were operated by a Russian airline company, are roughly equivalent to the U.S. military's C-5 transports. U.S. intelligence experts say they believe the Russian planes and crews were leased by the Syrians.

The Clinton administration

asked the Russian government to stop the delivery. But Russia said that since the planes were merely delivering MAZ 543 chassis, not fully equipped Scud launchers, it had no legal authority to do so.

The Russian planes left North Korea on Aug. 4 and arrived in Damascus the next day.

U.S. experts have disagreed about the exact nature of the shipment. Some Defense Intelligence Agency analysts initially reported that the Russians had transported some Scud launchers that the North Koreans had built using imported German trucks along with MAZ 543 chassis.

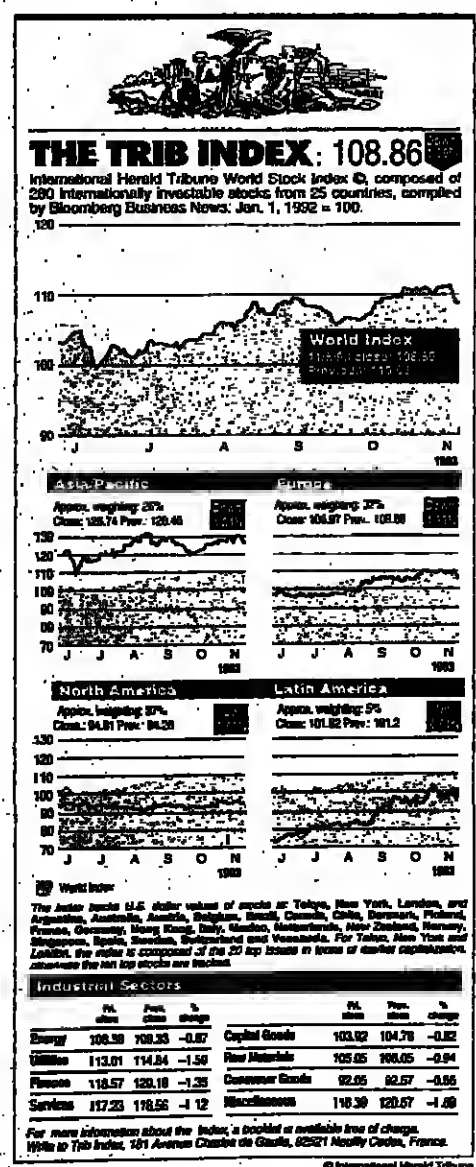
But the State Department examined U.S. intelligence reports and concluded that they supported the Russian explanation that the planes were transporting seven MAZ 543 chassis, and not complete mobile missile launchers.

The episode was potentially embarrassing. Just one month before the delivery, Russia pledged to adhere strictly, as of Nov. 1, to the Missile Technology Control Regime, an international agreement that restricts the transfer of missile technology. In return, Washington

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A New Chapter for Russia

Russia's voters have now confronted the next stage in building their democracy. They went to the polls on Sunday not only to elect a new national parliament but to adopt the constitution that will create it.

Ready to Fight Handguns

Martin Luther King used to say that America had reached a "state of readiness" before it could pass effective civil rights legislation.

No, Don't Legalize Drugs

U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders caused quite a stir last Tuesday when she suggested — off the cuff, apparently — that the idea of legalizing drugs ought to be explored.

Welfare Becomes Harm When the State Exaggerates

WASHINGTON — It was only a few years ago that Sweden was regularly held out as a model society — a near-perfect combination of economic success and social justice.

The Depressed West Needs a Social Philosopher

PARIS — The depression in Western societies has become much more than economic. There is a Spenglerian sense of cultural decline, of a loss of capacity in key countries going in the way we expect of them.

The Hong Kong People Have to Send the Message Themselves

LONDON — By sending a democratic reform bill to the Hong Kong legislature on Friday, Governor Chris Patten has defied Beijing and effectively broken off negotiations with China before Hong Kong is handed back to the mainland in 1997.

Only One China — Plus One Taiwan

TAIPEI — The economics minister, Chiang Pin-kung, caused an uproar in Taiwan when he announced at the recent meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Seattle that the government was now pursuing a Two Chinas policy.

First a Momentous Israeli Withdrawal

PARIS — Israel is supposed to withdraw its army from the Gaza Strip and from Jericho this Monday. Despite intensified violence in Gaza and in Israel, the Israeli government seems determined that its army will indeed go, although whether it will all go, or go on Monday, is not clear.

Other Comment

Punish Cubans, Reward China? It isn't easy to understand why Washington rewards China with its most-favored-nation trade status while it punishes the Cuban people with the economic embargo.

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IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: Angry Jobless LONDON — The unemployed assembled yesterday afternoon (Dec. 12) on Tower Hill to the number of 5,000 to 6,000 and afterwards marched in procession to the West End and Hyde Park. Mr. Keir-Hardie, M.P., who subsequently placed himself at the head of the processionists, delivered a speech on Tower Hill in which he said he was ashamed to belong to an assembly which persisted in talking twaddle while hundreds of thousands of their own flesh and blood were absolutely starving.



# Rating the World's Best Restaurants: UNITED STATES

With this page on the United States, the IHT's restaurant critic, Patricia Wells, continues to rate the world's top restaurants, with monthly reports culminating in a list of the Top 10 restaurants around the world. Each month will feature a different destination and an extended review of several of the best restaurants in that region. A companion report will focus on more casual and affordable restaurants. In future months we will look at restaurants in France, Britain, Italy, Germany, Spain and more. If you would like to share your favorite finds with Patricia Wells, please write her at the IHT.

## The Top Tables

- No. 1: Restaurant Daniel, 20 East 76th St., New York, tel: (212) 288-0033.
- No. 2: The Inn at Little Washington, Middle and Main streets, Washington, Virginia, tel: (703) 675-3800.
- No. 3: Chez Panisse, 1517 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, California, tel: (510) 548-5525.

**A** HANDFUL of the world's top chefs have access to the very freshest and finest ingredients, and they can virtually name their price and handpick their clientele. Daniel Boulud is in that coveted position, and unlike many of his colleagues in America, he neither betrays our trust nor flams his glories. Modest, wildly creative, quietly ambitious, Boulud also knows how to cook. I spent seven weeks of dining around America, sampling the foods of dozens of restaurants in some 25 cities, and his cuisine stands out as a beacon of maturity, grown-up cuisine for people who come for a cultured dining experience.

Restaurant Daniel has been open only since the spring, yet this young Frenchman's stints at Manhattan's famed Le Cirque, as well as Michel Guerdon, Georges Blanc and Roger Vergé in France, has allowed him to build the solid foundation that supports his highly personalized style of cooking.

Quite cleverly, he directs his nearly flawless execution of classic French technique with a clear perception of what people want to eat today, and he's right on target. If some of the dishes may look and taste like traditional French cuisine parading about in an Italian costume, that's hardly an accident.

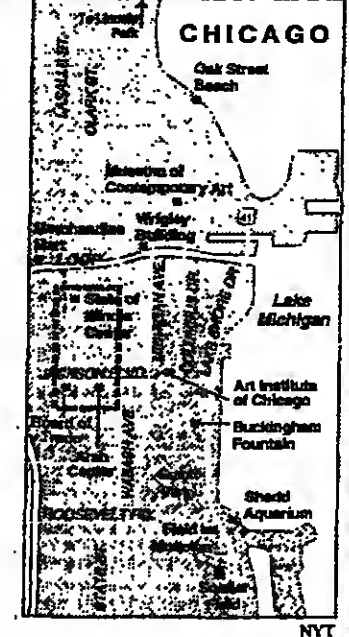
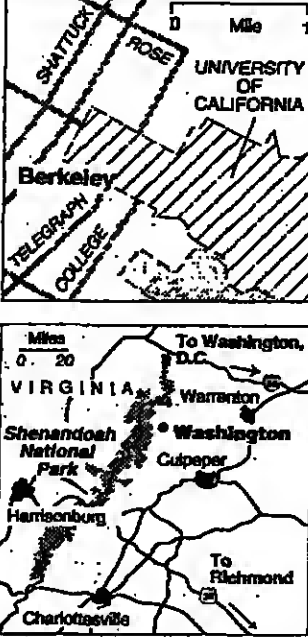
I can't imagine many chefs who could create such a tapestry of flavors, enhancing every single ingredient on the plate, weaving ravioli, white truffles and fresh porcini mushrooms, packing nine fresh herbs into ravioli, serving them in a pool of fresh tomato sauce and showering all with rich shavings of Parmesan; upgrading a simple, superb risotto dish with quail, foie gras and wild mushrooms.

Like Daniel himself, the food is even-tempered, evenhanded. Nothing hits you over the head, overcares or undercares. As in any great meal, the flavors build, as an advanced palate tastes is presented. From the first bite of his crisp rolls of sautéed wrapped with prosciutto and dusted with Parmesan, you know you're in for a serious treat.

His menu offers food with a homespun quality spiced with glimmers of upscale classic French. Like the farro, risotto, squash, duck, foie gras, rabbit, pork and black truffles, served with garlic toast and seasonal greens. Anyone who can make veal tongue taste like this gets high praise in my book: Against my better judgment I fell instantly in love with his salad of veal, tongue, beets and celery root tossed in a healthy horseradish dressing.

And at moments, he displays flashes of simple brilliance, with a celery coulis that embellishes a curried tuna tartare. In his Maine crab salad the ingredients are American but the taste is Asian, as he teams up fresh crab, mango, cucumber and mint in a coriander and lime dressing, a dish that's studied and spontaneous in the same breath.

And I think he's brave to include peasant soups in a \$65 menu — but in Boulud's hands the hot pumpkin puree with chestnuts, wild mushrooms and juniper cream, and another offering of white beans, sage and prosciutto with toasted country bread move well beyond proletarian boundaries.



From left: Rick Bayless at Frontera Grill in Chicago; Alice Waters at Chez Panisse in Berkeley; Daniel Boulud at Restaurant Daniel in New York.

Both soups reflect his ability to attain deep flavors with carefully balanced ingredients.

After several visits and a tasting of several dozen items, my main regret is his timid seasoning. A dash of salt or grind of pepper at the right moment could elevate his cooking to even greater heights. Boulud already knows that the chairs in his sophisticated, country-French dining room are much too bulky, and less cumbersome replacements are on order. And given his success, one would hope that he would reduce the number of tables, allowing the comfort level in the dining room to match the comfort levels of our palates. That said, the only hunger I felt the last time I left Restaurant Daniel, was a hunger to return.

Closed Sunday. Lunch menu, \$31; à la carte, \$40. Dinner menu, \$65, à la carte, \$70 to \$100.

A lot of high-class food in America steps over the line, beyond the boundaries of good taste. Who would ever want to eat, much less pay for, a lobster salad with chicken wings and roasted spring onions? The combination of goat cheese, Belgian endive, frites, organic almonds, dried apricots, herb oil and 25-year-old balsamic vinegar did not send me begging for more. Most often these crazed combinations come from young, wildly immodest chefs who hold you hostage at the table for four hours and 11 courses to show off their brilliance.

Patrick O'Connell, who along with his partner, Reinhardt Lynch, runs the highly successful Inn at Little Washington, an hour and a half's drive west of the nation's capital, understands the boundaries of modern cook-

ing. He may literally "color outside the lines" by showering the rims of plates with spritzes of sauce or powdery dustings, but when it comes to cooking, restraint and wisdom reign supreme.

He's a rare chef with a sense of near perfect taste, like a musician with perfect pitch. O'Connell is self-taught, but what a good teacher he is.

About 16 years ago O'Connell and Lynch expanded their passion for food and entertaining into a business and set out to create a perfect village inn, taking inspiration from the best in Europe. Along the way, they've created a cuisine to match. They showcase regional ingredients: native rockfish, local rabbit, apple cider, country ham and barbecued rack of lamb enrobed in a pecan crust. The composite is a cuisine that can compete with the best.

O'Connell's masterful approach shines through in a filet mignon of rare tuna capped with seared foie gras on a bed of charred onions. The three ingredients are bound together with a burgundy butter sauce, creating a pretty, and perfect, marriage of rich, rich flavors, textures soft and textures crunchy, all accented by the rustic smokiness of the blackened onions.

He challenges us to fall in love with uncommon pairings, as with a steaming roasted-red-pepper soup topped with an unlikely halo of sambuca-laced whipped cream. I'm now a convert, a true fan of that surprising hint of licorice enhancing the smoky essence of the soup.

Traditional boundaries are challenged again in his roasted native rockfish with

forest mushrooms, pine nuts and ruby grapes on wild rice pilaf with grilled radicchio. Too much on the plate, you say? Not when each ingredient has a supporting role to play, as O'Connell once again balances texture, color, the fat, the sweet and the acid, combining the woods, waters, forest, vineyards and garden.

At least one dish tasted outdated: the barbecued lamb in pecan crust (which seemed antediluvian when measured with the rest of the meal), and while the rabbit sausage with sauerkraut appealed, its wimpy flavors suggested that O'Connell may have lost enthusiasm for the dish.

He regained my trust with a warm Goldeco Delicieux apple tart — flaky, crispy crust topped with moist, acidic local apples — a model of perfection. In short, an uplifting meal, one that transformed a common fall evening into a memorable one.

Dinner only. Closed Tuesdays, except in May and October. Fixed-price menu, \$78/\$98 on Saturdays.

When Alice Waters first opened her bohemian Berkeley restaurant, Chez Panisse, in 1971, little did she realize that she was inspiring a full-scale revolution in American food. At home, in restaurants, on farms and in gardens all over the country, one can hear the principles of this outspoken, feisty (yet remarkably shy) woman expounded. Keep it fresh and keep it simple was really all she was saying, but in the America of the post-1960s that was saying a lot.

Today the message still needs to be sold, and that she does every evening at the small,

almost club-like main-floor dining room in Berkeley. In this land of faithful diners — many have been coming from the earliest of days — they take whatever Alice and her band of chefs serve, for each meal is a set menu, no substitutions and no returns.

Many of the dishes listed on the menus sound deceptively simple, but that is the point. Why on earth would you want to embellish spit-roasted chicken stuffed with greens and served with yellow Finnish potatoes cooked in duck fat? Need one say more about a warm pineapple feuilleté? What ingredient could we find missing in a green risotto showered with Parmesan? And there are not many restaurants that could make you love with greater gusto the signature hors d'oeuvre of perfectly toasted almonds paired with cured black olives.

As Alice tells us again and again, it's all in the ingredients. Use lousy potatoes and wood-roasted potatoes will taste lousy. Fill that oven with carby, fresh-from-the-ground potatoes so rich in flavor that they could replace meat, and you're in business.

The casual, pure-Berkeley atmosphere of the sparse wooden dining room almost camouflages the fact that this is a serious restaurant, where the cooks have an almost religious reverence for their ingredients and a clear dedication to maintaining their integrity. Chez Panisse is ever-whimsical, experimental, fiercely determined. The religion is freshness, and Alice is the high priestess. Where do I sign up?

Dinner only. Closed Sunday. Fixed-price menus, \$35, \$45 and \$65, depending on the day.

mean (memorable bumms and bobs gannou), and has a knack for anything that is stewed long and slow, such as confit de canard, or duck leg marinated with herbs.

On my last visit, her tortellini stuffed with broccoli rabe and ricotta was a triumph, displaying a touch of creative genius, along with respect for the heritage of Italian cuisine. Even the simplest of dishes — a salad of beets, endive, greens, goat cheese and walnuts, showed a flair for simple, refreshing fare.

Her creative juices were flowing that evening, with a luscious puree of cumin-laced red lentil soup, a dish with French underpinnings and a hint of India.

I consider great cassoulet one of the world's culinary challenges, for this hearty French casserole of white beans, duck, lamb, pork and garlic sausage requires a concentration, a sense of purpose that can achieve a perfect balance and a depth of flavors in which no one ingredient overpowers the others. Andrieu's is spectacular — steamy, rich, earthy, and gratifying.

Desserts were honey and satisfying, with mango sorbet, crème caramel and a stunning cool, cherry clafoutis to cap the evening.

Dinner only. Closed Sunday. Fixed-price menu, \$18.50.

## CASUAL DINING

- No. 1: Al Forno, 577 South Main St., Providence, Rhode Island, tel: (401) 273-9767.
- No. 2: Frontera Grill, 445 North Clark, Chicago, tel: (312) 661-1434.
- No. 3: Cafe Crocodile, 354 East 74th St., New York, tel: (212) 249-6619.

**T**HE husband-and-wife team of chefs-owners, George Germon and Johanne Killeen, and their Al Forno have a big billing to live up to. A recent Boston Globe article quoted them as naming Al Forno the best restaurant in Boston. (The fact is, it's miles away, in Providence, Rhode Island.) Fervent fans of this Italian-inspired restaurant also credit the Germon-Killeen team with single-handedly uplifting the quality of modern Italian food in America.

The couple hasn't swollen the heads of this dedicated pair, whose hectic, peripatetic, intense schedule would lend most mortals in the hospital. The constant visits to Italy for inspiration, the searching out of the best wines, oils, pastas and rice, the experimentation and the creation of crusty sourdough breads and elegant breadsticks

that could rival the best in the Piedmont are all taken in stride.

The diner is the beneficiary of all this energy. The best pizza I have ever eaten came from the hands of George Germon. He not only designed and built Al Forno's grills and ovens, but also invented the now popular grilled pizza, a thin "commode-laced dough that 'bakes' on a wood-fired grill, so the smoke gently perfumes the crust, but doesn't penetrate. He tops it all with tomatoes, garlic cooked to a rich infusion with red wine, a touch of cheese, a hint of spicy oil, a shower of fresh herbs.

Pastas and main courses follow suit: Each dish is unique and bears the Germon-Killeen signature, and each reflects the simple elegance of the best of Italian cuisine. Ribbons of lasagnettes are bathed in a garlic sauce and tossed with fresh rappini. Local clams team up with ultra-spicy sausages and peppers, served with rich, soothing, slumber-inducing mounds of mashed potatoes.

The result is food that's honest, forthright, ever-changing and ever-challenging. No tricks, just a searching for deep flavors and deep satisfaction.

Dinner only, Tuesday-Saturday; closed Dec. 24-Jan. 4. About \$30 per person.

In America, we like it hot. And if you like a job of fire, head for Chicago's Frontera Grill, the home of very sophisticated Mexican food served in let's-be-good-time surroundings. Rick and Deann Bayless — who also run the more upscale Topolobampo next door — are

scholars of Mexico who fell in love with the cuisine, which led them to the restaurant business.

Rarely have I seen a chef who can create such a harmony of flavors and textures, surprising you one moment, challenging you the next. Bayless's genius is that he doesn't paralyze your palate or use spices or pepper as camouflage for real flavor. With his roasted fresh poblano chili, he teases you with a filling of woodland mushrooms, creamy Mexican cheese, sherry vinegar and olive oil. There's no big bang here, just an even, gentle crack, a dense, intense, layering of flavors.

I felt like a very happy peasant when I sampled his Cazuela, cubes of charcoal-grilled

chicken with Swiss chard, roasted tomatillos, potatoes and serrano peppers, topped with fresh Mexican cheese. His *tamale de pescado* was castish steamed in banana leaves and topped with fresh tomato sauce, and even though I couldn't have identified either the banana leaf or the castish, I loved the texture, the simple pleasure on the palate.

And the list goes on, from fresh and chunky guacamole served with crunchy tortilla chips to black beans fried with garlic and onion and topped with fresh cheese. Uncap a bottle of beer, and you're in heaven.

Open Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch, \$5.95 to \$9.95; dinner, \$7.95 to \$16.95.

It's nearly impossible to find a restaurant that fits like a glove — comfortable, welcoming, homey, no matter the mood or the company. My cozy glove is Cafe Crocodile, a Manhattan bistro run by the outgoing André and Christie Abramowitz. They share an Egyptian-French heritage, a love for solid, homemade food and a flair for sharing it all with friends as well as strangers.

Want a great steak and fries, a solid cassoulet, Moroccan couscous or a classic crème caramel? Then this is the place. André makes her own pastas, has a gift for all things Mediterra-

nean (memorable bumms and bobs gannou), and has a knack for anything that is stewed long and slow, such as confit de canard, or duck leg marinated with herbs.

On my last visit, her tortellini stuffed with broccoli rabe and ricotta was a triumph, displaying a touch of creative genius, along with respect for the heritage of Italian cuisine. Even the simplest of dishes — a salad of beets, endive, greens, goat cheese and walnuts, showed a flair for simple, refreshing fare.

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On my last visit, her tortellini stuffed with broccoli rabe and ricotta was a triumph, displaying a touch of creative genius, along with respect for the heritage of Italian cuisine. Even the simplest of dishes — a salad of beets, endive, greens, goat cheese and walnuts, showed a flair for simple, refreshing fare.

Her creative juices were flowing that evening, with a luscious puree of cumin-laced red lentil soup, a dish with French underpinnings and a hint of India.

I consider great cassoulet one of the world's culinary challenges, for this hearty French casserole of white beans, duck, lamb, pork and garlic sausage requires a concentration, a sense of purpose that can achieve a perfect balance and a depth of flavors in which no one ingredient overpowers the others. Andrieu's is spectacular — steamy, rich, earthy, and gratifying.

Desserts were honey and satisfying, with mango sorbet, crème caramel and a stunning cool, cherry clafoutis to cap the evening.

Dinner only. Closed Sunday. Fixed-price menu, \$18.50.

## TIPS

**O**VER a period of seven weeks, as I observed the nation from Dayton to Dallas, Corte Madera to Columbus, I found that America and its national appetite remain a mammoth tangle of contradictions. Yes, supermarkets now boast fresh bay leaves, wine waiters shoulder a vocabulary larger than Hugh Johnson's, and chefs will fly fresh anchovies in from France for a single dinner, just to do it right. Kansas City boasts some of the world's best homemade chocolates, and bakers such as Eli Zahar in New York can proudly place their spectacular sourdough breads side-by-side with the world's best.

When Americans decide they want to learn, they become almost overnight experts, and now it's not surprising to find a man on the street who is as comfortable with vintage charts as with box scores, and cooks who can out-whisk, out-bake, out-roast the best.

Yet freshness, intelligence, and attention to



detail are not always on the menu. Every airport, stacks of stale fried food, and plastic utensils have become so commonplace that even the best establishments serve espresso coffee in Styrofoam cups. (At one very decent restaurant we are off plastic plates, drank from plastic cups, and the only utensil offered was a fork, albeit metal. A knife was never an option.)

And while, yes, America has made gastronomic advances, I do worry that it's all just another fad. Chefs barely old enough to shave consider themselves "world class" simply because they have won an award or a rave review. Are they really in it for the long haul?

Here, then, are some current observations from the nation that gallop life as if it might go out of style:

- Guilt and food remain tops on the agenda. One prominent restaurant features Seven Deadly Sins as a dessert, and the menu of a new family restaurant in Raleigh, North Carolina, places a "GF" symbol next to items that — you guessed it — are guilt-free.
- A popular no fuss, no frills, turkey stuffing this Thanksgiving consisted of 10 White Castle hamburgers, buns and all.
- Manhattan's new Harley-Davidson Cafe (a sure rival to the global success of the Hard Rock Cafe) has a retail store. The other day a friend waited in line for 30 minutes to buy a T-shirt for a Harley owner in France and watched a Japanese couple place an order for a brand new motorcycle.
- McDonald's is experimenting with a new concept: table service. In Raleigh, residents are awaiting the opening of the McDonald's cafe. No counter, no drive-in, just tables, chairs, menus, "waitperson."
- One restaurant industry magazine quotes a big-city food consultant as saying: "I see one possible long-term reason to cook at home, other than perhaps some psychological need. The oven is a threatened appliance. We rarely use it — Thanksgiving, that's all."
- Jell-O is making a major comeback. Consumption is up 12 percent in just one year, with 1.7 million Jell-O cookbooks sold. In an August, Georgia, mall, a restaurant even serves Jell-O pizza, just one of 20 items on the changing menu. (I wonder if it's seasonal.)
- Americans are crazy for coffee: Designer coffees, espresso coffees (most often burned to a deep bitterness in the roasting), gourmet (no more bazzini, please) coffees all but run the streets. One newspaper even rated cars for their coffee friendliness — smoothness of ride and convenience of cup holders for those long hauls in traffic.

## THE LIST

- Ratings so far:
- Tokyo / Top Tables**
- No. 1: Ki-Cho (Kitecho), Chuo-ku, Ginza 1-1-2, Hotel Seijo (B1, basement), tel: 3535-1177.
  - No. 2: Jiro, Chuo-ku, Ginza 4-2-15, Tsukamoto Sozan Building (B1, basement), tel: 5535-3600.
  - No. 3: Nodaia, Minato-ku, Higashi-Azabu 1-5-4, tel: 3583-7852.
- Hong Kong / Top Tables**
- No. 1: Lai Ching Heen, The Regent, Salisbury Road, Kowloon, tel: (852) 271-1211.
  - No. 2: One Harbour Road, Grand Hyatt, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai, tel: 388-1234.
  - No. 3: The Chinese Restaurant, Hyatt Regency, 67 Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, tel: 723-6226.
- Tokyo / Casual Dining**
- No. 1: Shibusen, Chuo-ku, Ginza 5-8-2, Ginza Koah Building (B1 basement and second floor), tel: 371-1717.
  - No. 2: Namban, Minato-ku, Roppongi 4-5-4, tel: 3402-0606.
  - No. 3: Otsuka, Taito-ku, Senzoku 1-6-2, tel: 3871-2571.
  - No. 4: Toricho, Minato-ku, Roppongi 7-14-1, Hobo Building (first floor), tel: 3401-1827.
  - No. 5: Meguro-Issan, Shingawa-ku, Kami-Osaki 2-1-3, tel: 3444-0875.
- Hong Kong / Casual Dining**
- No. 1: Victoria City Seafood Restaurant, Sun Hung Kai Centre, Wanchai, tel: 827-9938.
  - No. 2: City Chin Chow Restaurant, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon, tel: 723-6226.
  - No. 3: Chilli Club, 88 Lockhart Road, Wanchai, tel: 527-3877.

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Argentina 001-800-777-1111	+ China 00-13	+ Hungary 00+000-01-877	+ Malaysia 000-8016	+ Portugal 0001-4377	+ Turkey 0800-0-1477
Australia 001-800-777-1111	Colombia-English 000-13-0016	+ India 00+000-01-877	Mexico 95-800-877-8000	+ Puerto Rico 1-800-877-8000	+ United Arab Emirates 800-13
Austria 001-800-777-1111	Colombia-Spanish 000-13-0110	+ Indonesia 00-801-45	+ Morocco 00-8087	+ Romania 01-800-8877	United Kingdom (int.) 0800-890-877
Bahamas 1-800-388-2211	+ Costa Rica 153	+ Ireland 1-800-55-2001	+ Netherlands 00+022-9119	+ Russia 8-095-455-6333	United Kingdom (ext.) 0800-890-877
Δ Barbados 1-800-877-8000	+ Cyprus 080-900-011	+ Italy 177-102-2727	+ Netherlands Antilles 001-860-725-1111	+ Russia (Moscow) 155-6133	Δ United Kingdom 0200-800-800
Δ Belgium 075-51-0614	+ Czech Republic 0042-087-887	+ Japan 172-3877	New Zealand 000-9999	+ Saudi Arabia 155-6133	— U.S.A. 1-800-877-8000
Bolivia 001-800-777-1111	+ Denmark 8001-0877	+ Japan 0039-131	Nicaragua 02-164	+ Singapore 1800-177-177	— U.S. Virgin Islands 1-800-877-8000
Brazil 001-800-777-1111	Δ Dominican Republic 1-800-551-7777	+ Japan 0066-655-877	+ Nicaragua (Managua) 011	+ South Africa 0-800-99-0001	— Uruguay 000-177
Canada (FTT pay phones) 556	Ecuador 171	+ Korea 080-12	+ Norway 005-42-877	+ Spain 900-99-0013	+ Venezuela 000-177
Canada (landline) 1-800-423-0877	+ El Salvador 191	+ Korea 550-71-555	+ Saudi Arabia 1800-177-177	+ Sweden 0800-799-011	+ Venezuela English 800-1111-0
Chile 000-1333	+ Finland 0800-1-0784	+ Korea 550-71-555	+ Singapore 1800-177-177	+ Switzerland 000-14-0877	+ Venezuela Spanish 800-1111-1
China 001-800-777-1111	+ France 19+8087	+ Korea 550-71-555	+ South Africa 0-800-99-0001	+ Taiwan 0800-44-0877	
Δ British Virgin Is. 1-800-877-8000	+ Germany 030-4013	+ Korea 0039-131	+ Thailand 001-999-13-877		
Cambodia (Phnom Penh) 00-01-01	+ Greece 068-061-411	+ Korea 000-777			
Cambodia (Siem Reap) 2289	+ Guatemala 195	+ Lithuania 155-9777			
— Canada 1-800-877-8000	+ Honduras 001-800-421-2000	+ Lithuania 84-197			
	Hong Kong 080-877	+ Lithuania 0800-0115			

Some restrictions apply where country calling is available. Listing subject to change. For current numbers, customer service or additional numbers call the Sprint Access Number of the country you're in, or 1-800-877-8000 while in the U.S. Bold denotes country to which calling is available. FONECARD calling only. Use Global Calling. Sprint Express® (Sprint Express) Global Calling rates apply. \*Not available for pay phones. †Eastern border may require local call. Call local area numbers. ‡FONECARD calling calls U.S. termination only. —In some areas, ask the local operator to call to the Sprint Operator. ††For pay phones, push red button, wait for tone, then dial code. †††Available at military pay phones only. ††††Available from dedicated phones. †††††Available from southern pay phones only. ††††††Long distance charges may apply.







CAPITAL MARKETS

Year-End Plays Put Dollar And Mark on the Decline

By Carl Gewirtz

PARIS — Reading significance into year-end price movements is a tricky business. With many participants sidelined preparing their annual reports, markets lose liquidity and become vulnerable to exaggerated moves giving possibly false signals about future direction.

The dollar's setback to 1.6973 DM — in spite of a continuing flow of data supporting the view that the U.S. economy is growing, albeit with inflation under control — is seen leading to further weakness.

Paul Chertkow, London-based analyst for UBS Ltd., remains convinced the dollar will trade at 1.74 DM within three months but allows that before then "a temporary correction" appears likely to take it down to 1.6820 DM.

The view in Frankfurt is less sanguine. "The fact that the dollar was unable to firm despite a weaker tendency in the mark induces us to expect that the dangers of a setback are increasing," BHF Bank reported in its weekly commentary.

Neil Mackinnon at Citibank in London said he saw profit-taking pushing the dollar lower through year-end and predicted weakness into 1994. He changed the consensus view that the dollar would be trading at better than 1.80 DM in 12 months and forecast a level of 1.55 DM. He said he believed U.S. growth would slow sharply in the new year at the same time as the German economy pulled out of recession — meaning there would be no need for U.S. interest rates to rise nor any reason for German rates to fall sharply.

The economic outlook is also fundamental to the performance of the French franc against the mark. The recovery to 3.4221 francs per mark — inside the narrow 2.25 percent band of fluctuation that was officially abandoned in August — is sustainable if the recession in France really has ended. Two consecutive quarters of modest growth are seen by officials here and many analysts as confirmation of continued recovery and evidence that France is not in desperate need of a reduction in interest rates, which would weaken the currency.

Doubters pointed to the recovery of the franc — likely weakening French exports — as contributing to an economic relapse next year and renewing pressure for credit-lyonism said he did not see French short-term rates being cut sharply. The cuts would be gradual and shadow developments in Germany, he said, with the government aiming to reduce the risk premium on French assets. Long-term

See DOLLAR, Page 12

THE TRIB INDEX

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investible stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Week ending December 10, daily closings. Jan. 1992 = 100.

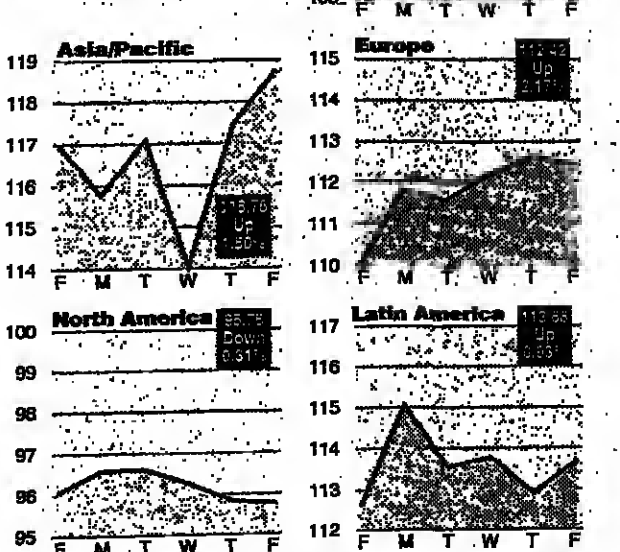


Table with 4 columns: Sector, 12/10, 12/09, 12/08, % Change. Rows include Energy, Utilities, Finance, Services, Capital Goods, Raw Materials, Consumer Goods, and Miscellaneous.

The index tracks U.S. dollar value of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and other major financial centers. It is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the ten top stocks are tracked.

CURRENCY RATES

Table of currency rates for various countries including Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, New York, Paris, Tokyo, Zurich, and others. Columns show rates for different currencies and dates.

Forward Rates: Table showing forward rates for various currencies and maturities (30-day, 60-day, 90-day, 120-day, 150-day, 180-day).

China to Abolish Import Subsidies

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China is to abolish import subsidies and substantially reduce the number of commodities requiring import licenses as part of efforts to liberalize foreign trade policy, a news report said Sunday.

All import subsidies are to be withdrawn next year to place the country's import business on a market-oriented footing, while licenses for 62 commodities will be phased out over the next four years, the China Daily's Business Weekly said.

However, certain restricted import items will continue to be subject to quota and license management, the report said, without specifying the commodities involved.

Tariffs are to be reduced over the next few years, the paper quoted a trade official as saying, although reductions will be carefully controlled to stem the surge in imports that has left China facing its first trade deficit since 1989.

The foreign trade deficit hit \$7.7 billion in the first 11 months of 1993, with imports growing 21.6 percent faster than exports. Officials have predicted a \$10 billion deficit this year, up from a \$4.4 billion surplus in 1992.

The Business Weekly also reported that China would limit growth in investments in fixed assets to 13 percent next year, fearing that the further freezing of prices could in-

crease inflation, which surged above 20 percent in cities this year.

Price increases and a 1993 fixed-asset investment growth rate of 46 percent have fueled urban inflation, angering consumers whose wages are rising at a much slower pace.

China will concentrate investment in core industries such as energy and transportation while banning luxury tourism projects in an attempt to hold the line on spending, the Business Weekly said.

Officials have predicted a 13 percent increase in total fixed asset investment, much lower than the 46 percent increase this year, it said. (AFP, UPI)

OPEC Presses Production-Curb Effort

Reuters

MANAMA, Bahrain — OPEC, still without a response from non-OPEC producers on curbing production, will press its case in talks in Oman beginning on Monday, the cartel's president said Sunday.

Abdullah bin Hamad Altiyah, Qatar's oil minister and OPEC's president, sought to put positive spin on the lack of response so far to a request from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for output cuts from outside the organization to rescue weak prices.

No country had officially told OPEC it would not cooperate, he said. "That means they're still thinking about it. That's good news."

The price of oil ended the week just above \$14 a barrel for January deliveries of the North Sea benchmark Brent, \$6 less than a year ago.

Decreased revenues are putting a pinch on OPEC members but the organization appears to believe that non-OPEC producers may feel it more and may be willing to limit output once they see the effect of the low prices.

Mr. Altiyah said he would hold two days of talks in Oman, which has acted as unofficial coordinator of the loose association of producers known as IPEC, the Independent Petroleum Exporting Countries, including big producers such as Russia and Mexico.

Asked if he would be making a specific request or offer, he said: "I'm not going with anything. There will just be an open discussion to see what they are thinking and what if anything they are willing to do."

He said he would seek to give support to his friend the Omani oil minister, Said bin Ahmad ash Shanfari, in his efforts with IPEC. Oman has generally demonstrated the most willingness of any IPEC member to cut output, but it has showed some reluctance and sup-

ported its efforts would have little effect compared to those of the OPEC giants.

OPEC's biggest concern is the North Sea producers, which have been rapidly increasing production. But Britain is not in OPEC and Norway repeated on Thursday that it had no plans to reduce oil production despite its record levels of production.

Mr. Altiyah just concluded three days of talks with the Algerian energy minister, Ahmed Benbitour, who proceeded to the emirates Saturday.

Mr. Altiyah said Sunday that all oil producers and consumers had to take responsibility for stabilizing weak prices, as OPEC prepared to press its case for independent producers to cut their output. Reuters reported Sunday from Muscat.

A ministry statement said that Oman "considers that all oil-producing and non-producing countries must bear responsibility for achieving stability in the oil markets and balancing supply and demand between consumers and producers."

Tokyo Notebook

Ginza Goes Downmarket

The Ginza, which for more than century has been Tokyo's most sophisticated shoppers and deep-pocketed investors, has begun to slide downmarket as the recession drags on.

Constrained consumption and plunging property prices have lured a small but growing group of discounters into a neighborhood renowned for swank boutiques and chic restaurants and bars. Recent newcomers include two discount men's clothingers, outlets for cheap eyeglasses and all-you-can-eat restaurants.

Old-line retailers, whose exorbitant prices — even by Japanese standards — have long been premised on the Ginza's cachet, are trying to restrain the newcomers from degrading the neighborhood by touting their products too loudly on the streets. They have persuaded police to warn the shopkeepers that they are obliged to use more understated techniques.

"One clothing store used a megaphone and screamed 'cheap, cheap, cheap,'" complained Yuji Ishimaru, executive director of the Ginza Street Association which unites the neighborhood's long-time merchants. "It was a vulgar sales pitch, one normally used for hawking fish or vegetables."

The entry of cut-rate merchandisers has become possible due to the plunge in Ginza property prices, long the highest in Japan. At the peak of Japan's bubble economy in 1990, a square meter (1.2 square yards) of land near the main intersection of Ginza was nominally worth 61 million yen (\$560,000). Today, Mr. Ishimaru said, its value is a quarter as much. Commercial rents have fallen by half, to \$84 per square meter per month.

Worst off, though, are Ginza's notorious hostess bars. The number of Japanese businessmen with expense accounts capable of standing up to charges of hundreds of dollars for an hour of drink and elegant chat-chat is dwindling. Since the peak of the bubble, about half the neighborhood's high-end establishments have been transformed into less-expensive bars. Ninety percent of the most exclusive hostess clubs, where charges ran to \$500 an hour per person, have closed. "They're being wiped out," Mr. Ishimaru said.

young couple driving through verdant scenery; no narration detracted from the driving experience.

The new post-bubble car, now in their early 30s, is seen in one ad rationalizing why they splashed out to buy a Mercedes: "We decided to be a bit excessive for our first child," explained the mother.

"There's been a shift to more specific images and a family atmosphere," said Hidekazu Aizawa, manager of the creative management division of Dentsu Inc., Japan's biggest advertising agency.

The changes, he said, reflect the smaller budgets of consumers. In addition, the focus on the home underscores how working fathers, with less overtime than before, are spending more time with their families.

Post-Bubble Revisionism: While most of Tokyo is relearning habits of frugality, Hyatt Corp. is getting ready to cater to high-rollers at a new luxury hotel that occupies the top 14 floors of a 52-story skyscraper designed by Kenzo Tange.

The Park Hyatt Tokyo, which tentatively plans to charge \$430 a night for an average room, was conceived in the late 1980s, when Japan's speculative spiral was just beginning to inflate. With the standard room averaging more than 50 square meters and including amenities such as laser disc players, remote-control curtains and facsimile machines, Hyatt had aimed to position itself at the top of Tokyo's hotel hierarchy.

Yet, as with other projects that are simply too big and long-term to stop, Hyatt has had to consider some mid-course corrections. "The whole profit-and-loss situation is being reconsidered because the market has changed," conceded David A. Udell, general manager. "We're trying to decide whether this will be a pre- or post-bubble project."

As the strong yen and the recession make Japanese prices ever more unreasonable, even Tokyo's established top-end hotels, the Okura and the Imperial, have had to offer deep discounts to keep corporate clientele.

"For a long time, it was a sellers' market here," Mr. Udell said. "Now, the big banks and brokerages say 'If you want to keep us as customers, you'll have to go down on your rates.'"

"We'll have to be realistic," he added. "We don't want to come out with rates that no one can pay."

Steven Brill

Ad Nascum

Japanese TV advertising, famous for its abstract, nonverbal approach to image-making, is becoming more concrete and family-oriented. The 1989 commercial for Nissan Motor Co.'s new Cefiro model was typical: It showed only a

Thyssen Rethinks Steel Unit

Reuters

DUSSELDORF, Germany — Thyssen AG is considering giving up its steel division due to its continued heavy losses, a top executive was quoted on Sunday as saying.

"If the price and competitive situation in the steel division gets much worse, partly due to further subsidies for competitors, then the seemingly impossible could happen," Heinz Kriwet, the management board chairman, said in an interview with the daily Handelsblatt.

Mr. Kriwet told the newspaper that the company had already had enquiries about its steel division from interested parties.

The interview was made available ahead of publication Monday. Mr. Kriwet said he did not just have the fate of 52,000 steelworkers to consider but also that of the 85,000 employees in Thyssen's other business areas.

Thyssen is trying to solve the steel division's problems by raising prices and cutting staff, he said, but it is not certain that the 9,000 job cuts planned in the current financial year will be sufficient.

Mr. Kriwet also criticized Economics Minister Günter Rexrodt for planning to subsidize the East German steelmaker Eko Stahl at a time when capacity cuts were needed across the industry.

Paramount Sets Meeting to Plan For an Auction

By Geraldine Fabrikant

NEW YORK — Paramount Communications Inc., mindful of a tough Delaware Supreme Court ruling that requires the company to consider all acquisition bids, has scheduled a board meeting Monday afternoon to begin setting up procedures for an auction.

Paramount representatives have sent notice of the meeting to lawyers for QVC Network Inc., the home-shopping company that is seeking to acquire the entertainment conglomerate in a hostile bid.

The Delaware Supreme Court said Thursday that Paramount's board could not favor a lower bid from its preferred partner, Viacom Inc., over a higher offer from QVC.

Although there were reports that the independent members of the Paramount board would form their own committee to review bids, giving the appearance they were not under the thumb of Paramount's management, an executive close to Paramount's board said he was not certain the company would do that, adding that the Delaware court had not singled that out as an issue.

He and others said that they expected a long and difficult meeting Monday, and that that issue, among other things, would be on the agenda.

Several traders said that once a new bidding war started, Viacom would inevitably have to raise its bid. Its \$9.5 billion offer now trails QVC's by about \$1.2 billion.

Viacom, which has broadcasting and cable interests such as the MTV music-video network, has raised \$1.2 billion from Nyxer Corp. and an additional \$600 mil-

lion from Blockbuster Entertainment Co. But it would have to build up its war chest even more.

A person with knowledge of the Nyxer board said some of the board members were concerned about the inherent value of Viacom's stock after a report that there had been buying of Viacom shares by WMS Industries, a company in which the chairman of Viacom, Sumner M. Redstone is the largest shareholder, with a 24.9 percent stake.

The reported stock buying was said to have occurred after Viacom announced its plan to buy Paramount in a cash and stock deal. Such buying might have bolstered Viacom stock in the month before it announced that Nyxer was investing in the deal, this person said.

But Frederic Salerno, Nyxer's vice chairman and a board member, denied the board was disturbed by the report. He said he was happy to be backing the Viacom deal and that he had no complaints from board members.

He did say regarding the trading in Viacom stock that "we are looking at it," but he also said it made no difference because Nyxer and Viacom had priced their deal in the fall before the reported WMS buying had started.

The terms for Nyxer mirrored a comparable, if somewhat smaller, investment in Viacom by Blockbuster, which announced its deal with Viacom in September. Mr. Salerno said Nyxer priced its deal at the same time, even though it was announced nearly two months later.

QVC's bid is currently valued at about \$10.45 billion, while Viacom's is worth an estimated \$9.83 billion.

Borden Ponders the Road Ahead

By Alison Leigh Cowan

NEW YORK — What sets Borden Inc. apart from other companies that have traded in an old chief executive for a new one is that in this case there is absolutely no consensus about how to get the company back on track.

Borden, whose board last week ousted Anthony S. D'Amato as chairman and replaced him with Ervin R. Shames, has in recent months had the benefit of counsel from at least two financial advisers, Lazard Freres and First Boston Corp.; the law firm of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz; and two management consultants, McKinsey & Co. and Booz-Allen Hamilton.

A slew of unsolicited confidential reports have also landed on the desks of Borden's officers and directors from shareholders.

The chore of picking among the rival plans, all tugging the underperforming food and chemical company in different directions, now falls to the board.

In contrast, at Eastman Kodak Co., which ousted its chief earlier this year, the remedy was clear.

Nearly all the critics were clamoring for the company to tame a bloated headcount and spin off an unrelated chemical business to shareholders, which it eventually agreed to do. Likewise, at Sears, Roebuck & Co., shareholders and analysts collectively advised the company to spin off its brokerage subsidiary as a separate company and to bolster operating management at the retail stores. The board dutifully obliged.

At Borden, the board finally appears to be listening to shareholder complaints about years of stagnant revenue and earnings, but the solutions are far more elusive.

"This company is not loaded with great brands that can stand up to this difficult pricing environment," said John M. McMillin, a food analyst at Prudential Securities Inc. "Unlike Kodak, there is no hidden jewel here. There's no quick fix."

None of Borden's four divisions were ever standouts, and margins have deteriorated across-the-board in the two years that Mr. D'Amato was at the helm. Grocery products, which include pastas and niche items like Cracker Jack popcorn, and packaging and other nonfood

products, both earned operating margins of 6.4 percent in 1992. Dairy lost 1.5 percent, while snacks brought up the rear with operating losses of \$2 percent.

Spinning off the more attractive pieces makes some sense but might leave the company without the wherewithal to support its growing debt.

At the same time, selling the whole company to another giant in the pasta, snack or dairy business could raise the hackles of the anti-trust authorities because of Borden's enormous market shares. (Unilever PLC and Nestlé SA are supposedly sniffing, but many think those are long shots.) Potential suitors would also have to contend with the basics of investigating dozens of small niche businesses in far-flung industries.

Even people who have supposed by been on the same side in the fight to get the board to take action quibble over how to handle obvious but simpler agenda items like what to do to improve the board.

Alan I. Greene, one of the company's top executives, said.

See BORDEN, Page 11

When you know your worth

Advertisement for Omega Constellation watch. Features an image of the watch and text describing its features: Ladies' watch in 18 k gold, Scratch-resistant sapphire crystal, Water-resistant, Swiss made since 1848. Includes the Omega logo and slogan 'The sign of excellence'.

Advertisement for BusinessWeek magazine. Text includes: ASIA OCEANIA JAPAN S.A., Société Anonyme, Luxembourg, 11, rue Aldringen, R.C. Luxembourg N° B 31893. The Board of Directors decided on December 2, 1993 the payment of a dividend of US\$ 0.20 per share of Asia Oceania Fund payable on or after December 20, 1993 to shareholders on record on December 16, 1993 against surrender of coupon N° 1. The shares will be quoted ex-dividend as from December 16, 1993. By order of the Board of Directors. This week's topics: Europe's Phone Giants Race To Modernize, Finally, GATT May Fly, Christmas Came Early For Europe's Exporters, Why Volvo Kissed Renault Goodbye, The Horizontal Corporation. Now available at your newsstand! BusinessWeek International, 14, av d'uchy, CH-1006 Lausanne Tel. 41-21-617-4411. For subscriptions call UK 44-628-23431 Hong Kong 852-523-2939.

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indonesia Bank (Surabaya); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Agence France Press (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (Geneva). Other data from Reuters and AP.



MUTUAL FUNDS

close of trading Friday, Dec. 10.

Table with multiple columns listing mutual fund names, fund names, last prices, and changes. Includes sections for AAL Mutual, Bond, Equity, and various international and domestic funds.

ESORTS & GUIDES

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED advertisement containing various travel, accommodation, and service listings under categories like BELGRAVIA, ORCHIDS, BELLE EPOCH, BARONESS, MERCEDES, DE SILVA, MISS GENEVA, and EXOTIC.



New International Bond Issues

Table with columns: Issuer, Amount (millions), Maturity, Coupon %, Price, and Terms. Includes sections for Floating Rate Notes, Fixed-Coupons, and Equity-Linked.

Clinton to Tip Fed Toward Growth

By John M. Berry
WASHINGTON — Administration officials say they want to tilt the seven-member Federal Reserve Board a little in the direction of boosting economic growth and jobs when they replace Wayne D. Angell, an inflation hawk...

disputed from a majority of Fed policy makers in favor of an immediate increase in short-term interest rates. His goal, he said, was not just to keep inflation from getting worse, but to reduce it further.

for the Committee for Economic Development, a business research group, and former chief economist for the House Budget Committee.

Analysts Mixed on Outlook for Inflation

NEW YORK — Expectations of falling U.S. inflation drove U.S. Treasury bond yields lower last week.

U.S. CREDIT MARKETS

benchmark 30-year Treasury bond closed at 6.19 percent last week, down from 6.24 percent the previous Friday and above the record low of 5.77 percent set Oct. 15.

The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, Dec. 13-18

A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the International Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business Week.

Earnings expected General Mills Inc. Dec. 14. Washington: Retail weekly sales unemployment compensation insurance claims.

BORDEN: Seeking Direction

Continued from Page 9
ny's big shareholders, with 2.5 million shares, thinks the board needs more veterans from the food industry...

Advertisement for WestLB bank. Includes text: 'Introducing the German bank that gives you greater scope in international finance: WestLB.' and '2000' logo.

Euromarts At a Glance

Table with columns: Eurobond Yields, Dec. 10 Dec. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.

Weekly Sales

Table with columns: Retailer, Dec. 9, Dec. 10, Dec. 11, Dec. 12, Dec. 13, Dec. 14, Dec. 15, Dec. 16, Dec. 17, Dec. 18.

Labor Rates

Table with columns: Dec. 10, Dec. 11, Dec. 12, Dec. 13, Dec. 14, Dec. 15, Dec. 16, Dec. 17, Dec. 18.

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DOLLAR: A Year-End Decline

Continued from Page 9
French rates, now at 5.82 percent, are down 2.25 percentage points, or 225 basis points, so far this year, compared with a decline of 144 basis points in German rates.

Bank met a roaring success with its issue of 475 million DM of five-year notes carrying warrants. Four warrants are needed to buy one share at a fixed price of 440 DM.

Kenya Unveils Steps To Lure Investment

NAIROBI — President Daniel arap Moi ordered a series of economic reforms on Sunday, including payment of dividends to foreign shareholders by local companies, in a bid to attract investments and speed up economic recovery following the recent resumption of foreign aid to Kenya.

GATT: EC-U.S. Deadlock on Films

Continued from Page 1
parts of the agreement rather than just accept or reject the entire package. The continued U.S.-EC standoff drew a stiff rebuke from Mr. Sutherland. He said it was "inconceivable" that the two issues could block an accord because they "pale into absolute insignificance" alongside the tariff cuts and trade rules upon which the 116 negotiating countries have already agreed.

tor said he conferred by telephone with Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen after Saturday's talks and agreed to maintain a controversial U.S. two-tier offer because of other countries' unwillingness to open their markets to American banks, brokers and insurers.

DRAMA: Listen Up, Hollywood

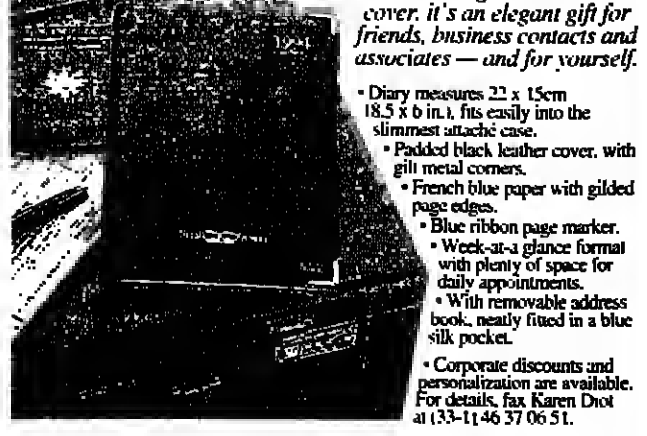
Continued from Page 1
public letter appearing recently in the local Hollywood trade papers that began, "Dear Steven and Dear Martin," several foreign directors, including Pedro Almodovar of Spain, Bernardo Bertolucci of Italy, Stephen Frears of England and Wim Wenders of Germany said: "We are only desperately defending the tiny margin of freedom left to us. We are trying to protect European cinema against its complete annihilation."

Last Week's Markets

Table with columns for Stock Indices, Money Rates, and various market data for Dec 10, 11, and 12.

The IHT Desk Diary For the time of your life.

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FIDELITY GLOBAL INDUSTRIES FUND

NOTICE OF ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING
NOTICE is hereby given that the General Meeting of the Shareholders convened for November 25 at 11.00 am at the registered office of the Company has been postponed by the Board at the request of a shareholder representing more than 1/5 of the outstanding shares of the Company as at that date.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Large table listing NASDAQ National Market data, including OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday, Dec. 10, and various stock prices.

Table listing various stock prices and market data, including columns for Sales, High, Low, Close, and Net Change.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, including 'Red-Hot R... Beat the S... Coast 19...' and 'NASDAQ NATI...'.



MONDAY SPORTS

Red-Hot Rockets Beat the Sonics to Boast 19-1 Record

United Press International
Hakeem Olajuwon scored 23 points and Otis Thorpe added 20, lifting the Houston Rockets over the Seattle Sonics, 82-75, in a show-down of the NBA's best teams.

The Rockets are 19-1 after Saturday's victory at home and are tied with the 1990-91 Portland Trail Blazers for the second-best one-loss start in league history.

NBA HIGHLIGHTS

winning streak for Seattle, which dropped to 16-2. The Sonics scored 32 points in the first half, just 4 points above the club record-low set against Denver in 1985.

Spurs 105, Nuggets 100: David Robinson scored 31 points, including 17 from the free-throw line as San Antonio, playing at home, held off Denver.

Robinson, who made just 7-of-17 field goal attempts but converted 17-of-22 foul shots, has scored at least 30 points in half of San Antonio's 20 games this season.

Heat 111, Celtics 90: In Miami, Harold Miner scored a career-high 28 points and Bimbo Coles added seven of his 11 points during a key second-quarter run to lift Miami over Boston, 111-90.

Miner, who was blamed by coach Kevin Loughery for Miami's overtime loss to Houston on Thursday, responded with the best scoring game of his two-year career. He totaled 12 points, as the Heat raced to a 30-21 lead after one quarter.



The Bulls' Scottie Pippen diving for a loose ball as the Nets' Armon Gilliam moves in during an NBA game won by Chicago, 109-105.

Michigan Loses 5th Straight to Duke, Arkansas Rolls Over Delaware St.

United Press International
Michigan was ranked No. 2, but Duke had a history of dominating the Wolverines and the fifth-ranked Blue Devils did it again, winning, 73-63, and adding insult by doing it in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Cherokee Parks scored 23 points, including six in the last three minutes, and Grant Hill added 18 in the Saturday game.

Jalen Rose scored a season-high 31 points for Michigan (5-1) while Jwan Howard tossed in 20. Duke, (5-0) had 10 points apiece from Marty Clark and Antonio Lang as it bested the Wolverines for the fifth straight time.

Duke shot 55 percent from the field for the game, the fourth time in five outings the Blue Devils have made at least half their field goal attempts. Michigan shot only 38 percent, the third time Duke has held an opponent under 40 percent.

Duke scored on 10 straight possessions during an 18-6 run that gave the Blue Devils a 64-50 lead with 5:57 left in the game. Hill had seven points during the spurt.

No. 7 Kansas 98, Arkansas-Little Rock 63: Patrick Ribbey scored a season-high 20 points to lead five Kansas starters in double figures as the Jayhawks won handily playing at home. Steve Woodberry and goal attempts as Louisville won at home to improve to 3-1.

Louisiana State 71, No. 12 Oklahoma St. 68: In Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Sean Gipson hit two free throws to snap a 63-63 tie with just over two minutes remaining, helping Louisiana State (3-0) to a narrow victory.

Jamie Brandon scored 21 points to pace LSU. Randy Rutherford had 23 points for Oklahoma State, which fell to 5-2.

No. 13 Indiana 79, Washington St. 64: Damon Bailey scored 22 of his 29 points in the second half and Indiana welcomed back Coach Bobby Knight by downing previously unbeaten Washington State in the championship game of the Indiana Classic.

Alan Henderson added 16 points of the Hoosiers (4-1), who improved to 40-0 in the Indiana Classic, a tournament they have won each year since its inception in 1974. Tony Harris scored 18 points to lead the Cougars (7-1).

No. 10 UCLA 93, Long Beach St. 51: Shon Tarver led four Bruin players in double figures with 16 points. UCLA, playing at home and now at 4-0, shot 63 percent from the field.

Long Beach State (4-2) shot just 27 percent in the first half and trailed at halftime, 33-15.

No. 11 Louisville 90, Eastern Kentucky 66: Clifford Rozier scored 32 points and set an NCAA record by making all 15 of his field goal attempts as Louisville won at home to improve to 3-1.

Louisiana State 71, No. 12 Oklahoma St. 68: In Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Sean Gipson hit two free throws to snap a 63-63 tie with just over two minutes remaining, helping Louisiana State (3-0) to a narrow victory.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

freshman Jaquae Vaughn had 13 points apiece for Kansas, which improved to 8-1.

No. 17 Illinois 106, American 84: Deon Thomas scored 31 points as Illinois won the championship game of the Illini Classic in Champaign.

Thomas became Illinois' all-time leading scorer with 1,703 points, surpassing Eddie Johnson. Illinois improved to 4-1.

No. 18 Georgia Tech 86, Mercer 69: Travis Best ignited Georgia Tech on a surge to start the second half to lead the Yellow Jackets to a victory in Atlanta.

Best scored 19 points and Fred Vinson added 18 as Georgia Tech improved to 4-1.

No. 19 Cincinnati 75, Rutgers 61: Freshman Damon Flint scored a season-high 25 points to lead Cincinnati in the championship game of the Bearcat Classic in Cincinnati. Cincinnati has won all four Bearcat Classic tournaments and climbed to 5-1 for the season.

No. 20 Connecticut 117, Central Connecticut 63: Donny Marshall scored 28 points, Ray Allen had 25 points and 11 rebounds and Donnell Marshall added 23 points and 10 rebounds in carrying Connecticut to a rout in Storrs, Connecticut.

The Huskies (5-0) have scored over 100 points in their last three games against Central Connecticut.

No. 21 Wisconsin 91, Texas Tech 88: In Lubbock, Texas, Michael Finley scored 27 points and freshman Rasbard Griffith had 23 points, nine rebounds and six blocked shots as the Badgers improved to 4-0. The Red Raiders slipped to 2-3.

No. 23 George Washington 94, Jackson St. 74: Alvin Pearson scored a career-high 20 points and Vaughn Jones added a career-high 18 for the Colonials (4-1) in the championship game of the Red Auerbach Colonial Classic in Washington.

Nimbo Hammons had 15 points and 10 rebounds and Yinka Dare finished with 13 points for George Washington.

Indiana's Knight Is Suspended for Letting Bobby Loose

By Robert McG. Thomas Jr. New York Times Service

Bob Knight, the Indiana University basketball coach who has made it known he prefers the mature "Bob" to the juvenile "Bobby" that more aptly describes his personality, has had another Bobby pinned on him.

He was suspended from Friday night's home game against Tennessee Tech because of his Bobbyish behavior during a game against Notre Dame last Tuesday.

As a result, Knight was not on hand when his son, Patrick, a reserve for Indiana, was ejected for fighting during the Hoosiers' 117-75 romp over Tennessee Tech.

Coch Knight's one-game suspension, the first he has received from Indiana in his 22 seasons there, was imposed by the athletic department, according to a spokesman. The spokesman said the university's president, Thomas Ehrlich, did not participate in the decision.

An assistant coach, Norm Ellenberger, took over as coach for Friday night's game, which opened the annual Hoosier Classic.

It was Ellenberger who was among those attempting to control Patrick Knight after he tangled in the second half with Greg Bibb of Tennessee Tech before teammates and referees could separate them.

The elder Knight earned his suspension during the Hoosiers' 101-82 victory over Notre Dame. At one point while Knight was screaming at his son for sloppy play, the coach appeared to kick at something. Some fans, believing the coach had kicked Patrick, began booing him, and Knight, who had previously berated the crowd for displaying signs sarcastic to the Notre Dame team, turned and glowered at the crowd.

A university statement said Knight had been suspended for "unsportsmanlike conduct." The school's sports information director, Kit Klingelhoeffer, said that he wasn't sure if Knight had kicked his son but that the suspension was based on his overall conduct.

The statement said the suspension was imposed in accordance with Big Ten rules holding member schools responsible for maintaining sportsmanship.

In a statement read to fans before Friday night's game, Knight offered no apology for the treatment of his son but said, "If my reaction to the jeering from the stands Tuesday night offended any true Hoosier fans, I am deeply sorry and wish to apologize."

Knight has won Bobbys by throwing a chair across the court (during a loss to Purdue in 1985), by making a glib, dismissive comment about rape (during a television interview in 1988), by showing a Louisiana State fan (during an argument after a game in 1988) and by pulling his team off the court (after receiving a third technical foul during an exhibition game against the Soviet Union in 1981).

He won his first major Bobby as a coach of the U.S. team in the American Games in 1979 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. There, he was accused of assaulting a police officer during a team practice.

Knight was later convicted in absence of aggravated assault and the governor of Puerto Rico demanded, in vain, his removal as coach of the 1984 U.S. Olympic team.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

OTC Consolidated trading for week ended Friday, Dec. 10.

Table with columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various OTC stocks and their performance.

Table with columns: Symbol, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various NASDAQ stocks and their performance.

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MONDAY SPORTS

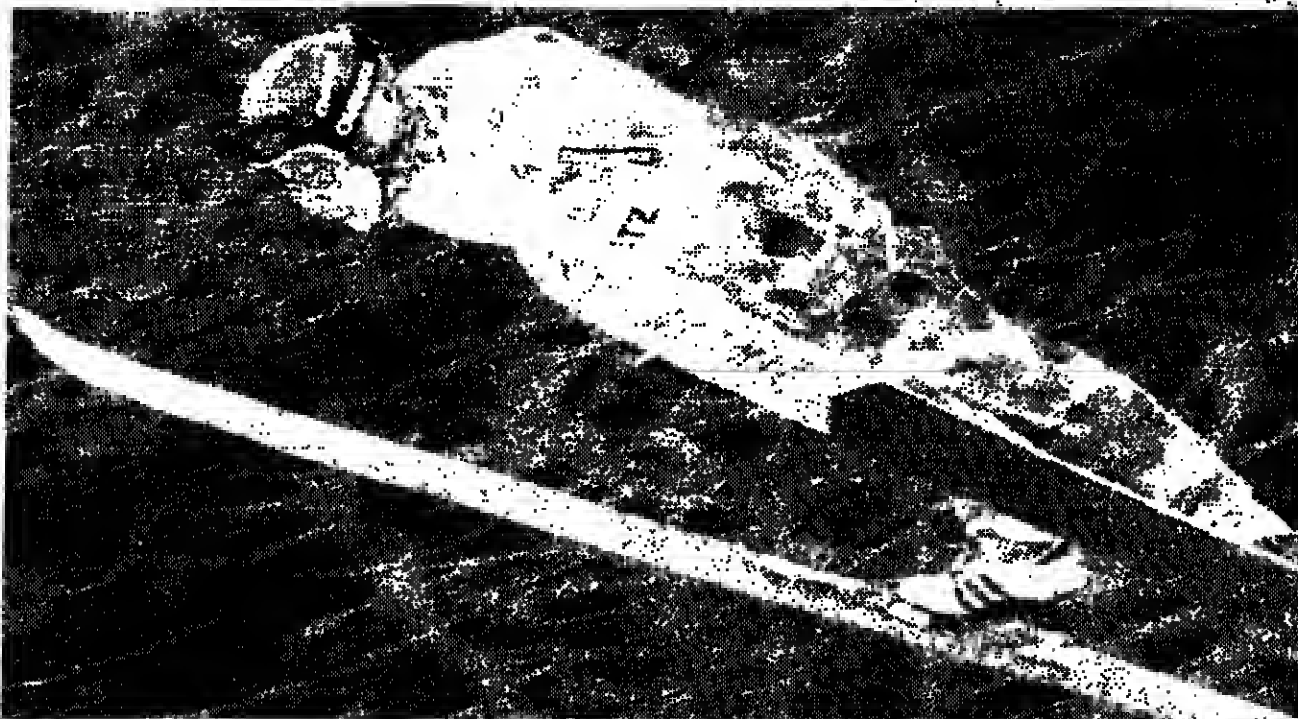
SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings

Table showing NBA Standings for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Central, Pacific) and Western Conference (Midwest, Pacific). Columns include Team, W, L, Pct, GB.

Major College Scores

Table showing Major College Scores for various teams including Georgetown, Boston College, and others.



FLYING HIGH — Kenji Ogiwara of Japan jumped 93.5 and 95 meters on Saturday, then finished 10th in Sunday's 15-kilometer cross-country race, enough to win a Nordic combined competition in St. Moritz, Switzerland. Takumi Kono, also of Japan, finished second.

OLYMPIC SPORTS

World Cup Skiing

WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM: Results of the women's giant slalom... WOMEN'S SLALOM: Results of the women's slalom... MEN'S SUPER-GIANT SLALOM: Results of the men's super-giant slalom.

Figure Skating

Final results of the HKK Trophy event in Innsbruck, Austria... Results of the World Cup event in Innsbruck, Austria.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

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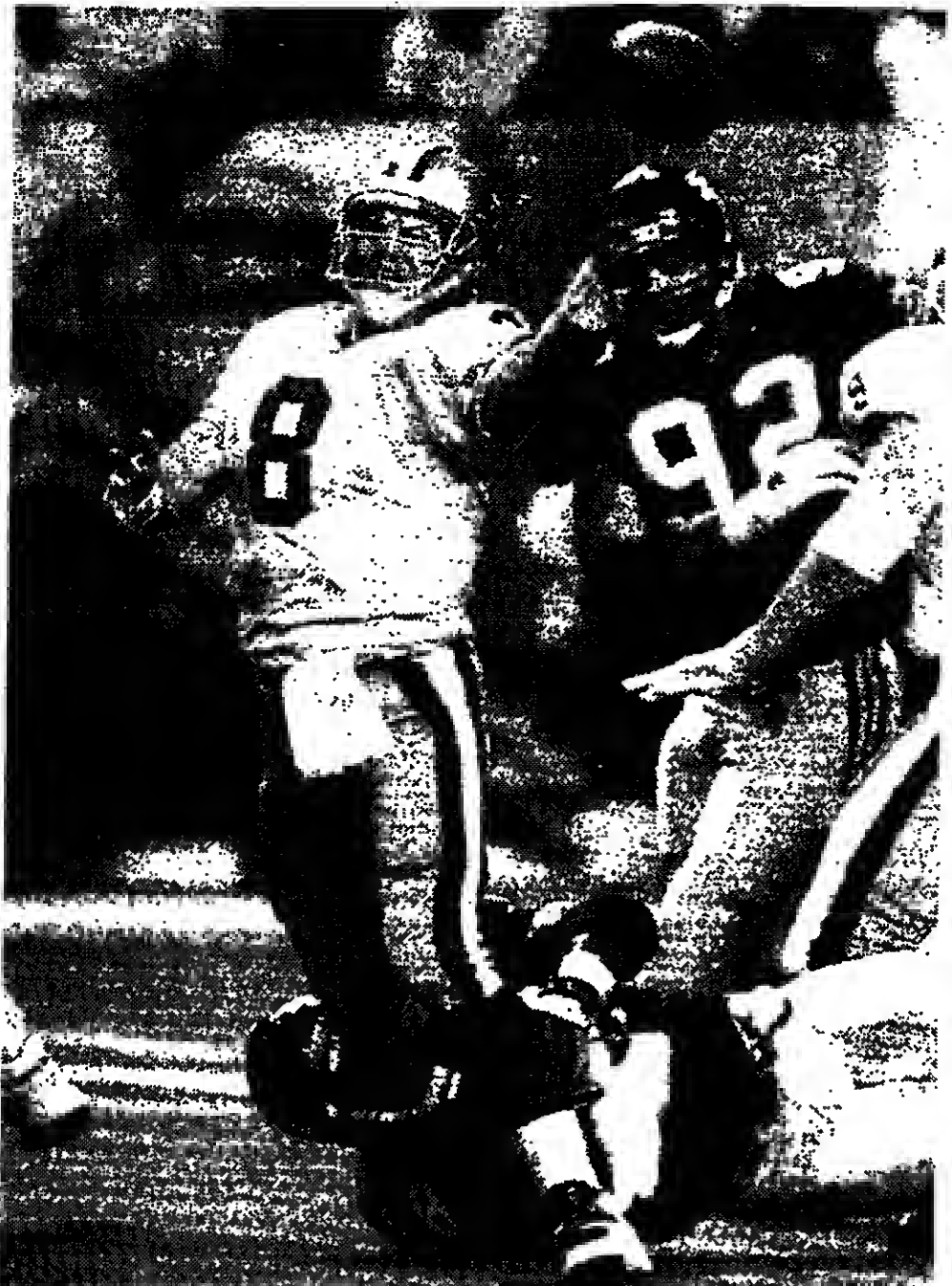


MONDAY SPORTS

Goalkeeper's Gift Leads São Paulo Over AC Milan

TOKYO — A blunder by the AC Milan goalkeeper gave São Paulo a 3-2 victory Sunday in the World Club Championship...

Rams Humble Saints, 23-20, With Rookie's Help



The Falcons hurried 49ers' quarterback Steve Young and beat San Francisco, 27-24, in Atlanta.

Hampton and Giants Crush Hapless Colts

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches Jerome Bettis became the first rookie in six years to rush for 200 yards in a game...

Korda Takes Grand Slam Cup, Beating Stich and Sampras

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches MUNICH — Petr Korda, beating the No. 2 player in the world...

Mader Wins 2d Of Season

VAL D'ISERE, France — World Cup leader Günther Mader continued his fine start to the season by clinching a super-giant slalom on Sunday...

Wiberg Makes Comeback Official With Victory in Slalom

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches VEYSONNAZ, Switzerland — Sweden's Pernilla Wiberg captured her first World Cup win of the season in a slalom on Sunday...



Pernilla Wiberg of Sweden on her way to her first World Cup victory of the season in Sunday's slalom at Veysonnaz, Switzerland.

French Figure Skaters Sweep Singles in Japan

The Associated Press CHIBA, Japan — Philippe Candeloro came from behind with an original spin in the men's competition Sunday...

FSU's Ward Collects His Heisman

By Ken Denlinger Washington Post Service What nearly everyone in college football had expected for weeks has become fact...



# When More Is More: Alberto Pinto's Rooms

By Christopher Petkanas

PARIS—When one of the more closely followed French glossies defined Alberto Pinto as a decorator and *grand maître de maison*, on a first-name basis with Yves (Saint Laurent) and Hubert (de Givenchy), he was over the moon. Since the magazine's directory of everyone who is anyone in Paris was alphabetical, Pinto was also able to claim a good spot right after Paloma Picasso and only two entries away from André Putman.

"Usually everyone says I am a big host," says Pinto in the slightly fractured English of a Frenchman who attended grade school in Casablanca. "In fact they just wrote that the other day. What newspaper was it?" Certainly, it is difficult to imagine a wealthier or more high-powered stage set

"With its tortoise-shell tea caddies and opaline pitchers, my own room, on the other hand, could be the one of a collector in a Central European palace in the early part of the century. 'Rich' was my choice for the look of this apartment because it is the kind of apartment in which rich looks right."

Documenting the seventh-arrondissement Seine-view address are 90 pages in a 304-page book entitled "Alberto Pinto" (Michel Aveline).

With a staff of about 20, Pinto says he never set out to be the full-tilt decorator he has become. Born in Morocco in 1946 to an Argentine father, a textile mogul, and a mother from Tangier, he moved with his family to France at age 16. He later studied art at the Ecole du Louvre. In his 20s he kept houses in both Paris and New York that, like his home-furnishings shop, Pinto Pink on Rue Princesse, were a sunny cocktail of the cultures and colors of the Mediterranean basin. Friends liked what he did for himself so much that they asked if he wouldn't do the same for them. Little by little, Pinto recalls, he became a decorator.

"That Mediterranean-flavor-in-town look that is so big now, we were the first ones to do," he says. By "kind of apartment in which rich looks right," Pinto was referring to his 16-foot (5-meter) ceilings, ideal for the palmette friezes he likes to paint in the corners, which are done in two tones of faux bois, and to the sweeping volumes that have been carved out of 7,500 square feet of surface area — 1,000 square feet given over to his bedroom alone.

As for the precise meaning of "rich" in his lexicon, there are Meissen cachepots atop Boule bureaus, candlesticks by the Neapolitan bronzier Thomire, and cascading jabsots finished with passementerie. If guests can't find a place to put their drinks down it's because the museum-quality Biedermeier tables are all already taken up with Bohemian glass, rock crystal ohelisks, *gatach* and silver *objets de vertu*, and footed bronze cups poised on yellow Siennese marble pedestals.

All of this suggests a man who derives reassurance and possibly even his identity from beautiful things, but this is not the case with Pinto. For him, collecting is its own reward. "What excites me is to find and to buy and to accumulate, but I am not attached to objects," he says.

Pinto's 1929 building, its rather forbidding facade inspired by the brickwork of the houses in Place des Vosges, is one with pedigree. It was designed by a Swedish



Pinto: "It's very rare that someone calls me to do something small."

architect to accommodate the spoils of a major French collector of Louis XIV *objets d'art*. On the fourth floor, Henri Samuel decorated one of the most important apartments of his career for Hubert and Isabelle d'Ornano. And the shoe designer Roger Vivier, who was a previous owner of Pinto's place, drew attention in the '50s for daring to combine Louis XV armchairs with Bacon's and Cesars and terra-cotta floor tiles. Pinto replaced the crude plumbing and wiring with an eye toward running the kind of house that has earned him the reputation he has already let you in on, that of a world-class host. Today there is a perfectly dressed state-of-the-art Bang & Olufsen dinner table for getting the light right, orchids in all the bathrooms, and a full-time laundress to press the frail silk tablecloths stitched together from antique saris.

Pinto puts his success down to having always held to a high standard of creative flexibility and professional discretion. "I have been in business for 26 years, but I am not very public because my clientele is very special — part of why I've made it be-

cause I'm a very reserved person. The only thing I can tell you about the people I work for is that they have very high important positions in finance and government — some are actually heads of state — and that they live all over the world, from Marbella and Palm Beach to Athens and Rio. They're not social people, none of them. They have private jets, seven or eight houses, yachts, but even so they live simply with their families." While Pinto is an easy hand at hotels and offices and boats, he considers private houses of a certain size to be his real strength. "It's very rare that someone calls me to do something small. This could sound pretentious but I feel much more comfortable in a room that holds a thousand persons than in a room where you can put three persons. For me a lot of space is never a problem. I like big houses and I like big furniture. That's how you know it's me."

Christopher Petkanas is writing a history of the New York decorating firm Parish-Hadley.

## LANGUAGE

# Gifts of Gab: Ringing Out the Old

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — "The genius of democracies," wrote Alexis de Tocqueville in 1840, "is seen not only in the great number of new words introduced but even more in the new ideas they express."

To which Willa Cather countered in 1936, "Give the people a new word and they think they have a new fact."

This debate can be pieced together from entries under "language" and "words" in The Columbia Dictionary of Quotations (Columbia University Press, \$34.95), a large-format, thousand-page compilation that is the most refreshing new quotation book of the year. Writers need a general companion to Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, one that draws more heavily on modern sources: of the 18,000 quotations in the Columbia, 11,000 have not been anthologized before — and are not familiar. As Peggy Noonan is quoted, "You don't have to be old in America to say of a world you lived in, 'That world is gone.'" The compiler, Robert Andrews, gives a brief description of the writer or speaker and the date of the quotation, valuable information for researchers.

We are now into the umpteenth annual "Gifts of Gab" column, the avidly awaited, savvy and invaluable guide to holiday giving for word lovers.

If you are going to give one book to one really literate friend this Christmas, let it be "Fine Print: Reflections on the Writing Art" by James J. Kilpatrick (Andrews & McMeel, paperback, \$12.95). Kilpatrick's gentle essays on the changes in allusion and the vagaries of style are classics, and his short takes on usage are more wise than crotchety. ("A whore may be naked, but a mistress is nude. We are talking class.")

Paul Dickson, whose early work included "There Are Alligators in the Sewers and Other American Credos," brings a nice light touch to the lexicon of legislators with "The Congress Dictionary: The Ways and Meanings of Capitol Hill," written with Paul Clancy (Wiley, \$29.95). In Tip O'Neill's foreword, the former Speaker offers a poignant metaphor writing of the death of Representative Silvio Conte: "I thought, poor Sil, four bells did ring for him." The sounding of four bells is the signal for final adjournment, "but for those of us who spent a good part of our lives in Congress, it has another, more solemn, meaning."

Looking for a book to satisfy a linguistic hater, someone who drops himself in syntactic chains and counterfactual conditionals? Try the derivatively titled "Everything that Linguists have Always Wanted to Know about Logic" by James D. McCawley (University of Chicago, paperback, \$34.95). I'm in favor of loweringcase *that* and *about* as unimportant words; I don't know why he doesn't capitalize *have*, but Jim is not the man to cross in the language dodge. This book updates his 1981 mind-bender, in case you missed it, and his analysis of the implicature in the sentence "On the \$4.95 lunch you get a soup and a dessert" is breathtaking.

Out with the old words, in with the new! "Fifty Years Among the New Words," edited by John Algeo (Cambridge University Press, paperback, \$24.95), re-

prints the neologistic articles in American Speech magazine, mostly by I. Willis Russell and Mary Gray Porter. Oh, the words that haven't made it in the language: *colorcast*, *creepster-lane*, *orature*, *phonogenic*. (The last meant "speaking well over the telephone.") Maybe, in the cellular era, it will come back.)

Lighten up: "How to Talk to Anybody About Anything" by Leil Lowndes (Citadel Press, paperback, \$9.95) is a breezy guide to breaking the ice with people through their line of work. The author shows a fine sensitivity to the maverick mystique: "Enthusiasts speak of *owning* homes, *keeping* fish or *having* cats." Their sport, *adventurers never die*; "a rock climber *creates*, a hang glider *goes in*, a bungee jumper *spits* and a skydiver *bounces* — obviously only once."

"Juba to Live: A Dictionary of African-American Slang," by Clarence Major (out next month from Penguin in paperback, \$14.95), expanding his 1970 work, gives us a fine current source — and assembly of other sources — of a facet of what used to be called black English. (*Juba* is the "slave name for leftovers from the white folks' table.") *Juice* is defined as "payoff or protection money given to the police to look the other way"; in white political lingo, I've heard the same word used to mean "power, influence, clout."

Nowhere else is a simple slang word like *mess* given such useful attention. *Mess* early in the century was an "ironic statement meaning good," while *mess* with meant "to harass"; *mess around* was heard in the 1920s to mean "improvisational jazz dancing"; *mess up [one's] mind* in the '30s meant "to confuse someone through manipulation," and *mess up* generally meant "to attack physically; to verbally assault"; in the '80s, to *mess up [one's] game* meant "to interfere with someone's attempt at romance."

Pop etymology? The Word Detective is a light-hearted, eight-page bimonthly (P. O. Box 6437, F.D.R. Station, New York, New York 10150, \$12 a year), based on Words, Wit and Wisdom, the syndicated column by William and Evan Morris. *Whence the boot* in "boot up your computer"? From "pull oneself up by one's own bootstraps"; the word *bootstrap* was used in computing circles in the 1950s and was clipped to *boot* in the computer boom of the '80s.

Best dictionary buy if you have a CD-ROM in, or attached to, your computer: the newly revised second edition of the Random House Unabridged, which comes with the complete text on a compact disk, for \$100. Someday all college-size dictionaries will come with a CD-ROM insert, and you will have no excuse for not looking up a word's meaning.

This was a good year for word books. But word mavens must get started on a fresh batch. Why? As T. S. Eliot put it in "Four Quartets":  
For last year's words await another voice,  
And next year's words await another voice.

New York Times Service

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED  
Appears on Page 4

## WEATHER

Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Region	City	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	
Europe	London	17-22	11-15	5-9	14-17	11-14	4-8	
	Paris	12-18	8-12	3-7	10-14	7-11	3-6	
	Rome	15-20	10-14	5-9	12-16	9-13	4-8	
	Moscow	10-15	5-9	0-4	8-12	5-9	0-4	
	Beijing	1-7	-3	-7	1-5	-2	-6	
	Tokyo	10-15	5-9	0-4	12-16	9-13	4-8	
	Delhi	25-30	20-24	15-19	27-31	22-26	17-21	
	Sydney	18-22	13-17	7-11	20-24	15-19	9-13	
	Auckland	12-18	7-11	1-5	15-19	10-14	4-8	
	Sydney	18-22	13-17	7-11	20-24	15-19	9-13	
<p><b>North America</b>            Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by Accu-Weather.            High/Low: Today/Tomorrow</p> <p><b>Europe</b>            High/Low: Today/Tomorrow</p> <p><b>Asia</b>            High/Low: Today/Tomorrow</p> <p><b>Africa</b>            High/Low: Today/Tomorrow</p> <p><b>North America</b>            High/Low: Today/Tomorrow</p> <p><b>Middle East</b>            High/Low: Today/Tomorrow</p> <p><b>Latin America</b>            High/Low: Today/Tomorrow</p>								

## CROSSWORD

Solution to Puzzle of Dec. 10

ACROSS  
 1 Canyon sound  
 5 Cross-legged  
 6 Groceries  
 8 August forecast  
 14 Dumber  
 15 SO-SO  
 16 Mohawk Valley  
 17 Kitchen lat  
 18 Shea Stadium  
 19 Pressed one's  
 20 Bq-sared  
 21 Vacation locale  
 23 In — (ready  
 for release)  
 24 Sign of summer  
 25 Cordage  
 26 It will be printed  
 tomorrow  
 28 Garard Ford's  
 birthplace  
 29 Banned apple  
 spray  
 30 By way of  
 32 Vacation locale

DOWN  
 42 Declare  
 43 Congressman  
 44 Solemn  
 45 ——— lorgnet  
 47 1959 Fiesta's  
 song  
 49 Corne Charlotte  
 51 Outcome  
 54 Vacation locale  
 56 Have a tab  
 61 Luke gold  
 62 On-the-cob  
 63 Isa of  
 "Casebianca"  
 64 Wrist movement  
 65 Tele starter  
 66 Pre-owned  
 67 Army vehicles  
 ("You're  
 welcome!")  
 68 Blue-green  
 69 Jolly, to the  
 British

4 — man out  
 5 Sana native  
 6 "Back to you"  
 7 Fetches  
 8 Photographer  
 Adams  
 9 Rock of  
 Hollywood  
 10 Jazz locale  
 11 Muralist Joan  
 12 Cake decorator  
 13 Janet Reno's  
 home county  
 21 Lacquer  
 22 Pine  
 24 Associate  
 27 Put the finger  
 on  
 28 Is brilliant  
 29 Painter's  
 misapp  
 31 Russian  
 parliament  
 building  
 32 Sea swooper  
 33 "Broom Hilda"  
 creator Myers  
 34 Whist gam  
 35 Military  
 command?  
 37 "Wheels"  
 40 Late-late show  
 host  
 41 Vacation events

48 Violent  
 downfalls  
 49 Tornado part  
 50 Orlando  
 attraction  
 52 Shareholder  
 53 Sleepwear item  
 57 Rub  
 58 Tuck knob  
 59 Whole of a  
 movie  
 62 Broadway hit of  
 1964-65

# A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE TRIB

- Monday MONDAY SPORTS
- Tuesday STYLE
- Wednesday STAGE ENTERTAINMENT
- Thursday HEALTH/SCIENCE
- Friday LEISURE
- Saturday-Sunday ART/ THE MONEY REPORT
- POLITICS AND ECONOMICS
- BUSINESS AND FINANCE
- OPINION AND COMMENTARY
- THE ARTS AND SCIENCE
- FOOD AND FASHION
- FILM AND THEATER
- BOOKS AND TRAVEL
- BRIDGE AND CHESS
- THE NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD
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